

## Local ban on Mugabe party to clamp down on intimidation

Lord Soames, the Rhodesian Governor, took drastic action yesterday to prevent intimidation in the coming elections. He forbade Mr Mugabe's radical Zanu (PF) party to hold meetings in a central

agricultural area. Four Zanu (PF) officials were arrested and are expected to appear in court today. Last night a series of bomb explosions rocked Salisbury. Two people were killed.

## Salisbury rocked by bombs

From Dan van der Vat  
Salisbury, Feb 14

Official action against Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party escalated today as the Governor, Lord Soames, issued his second banning order and police arrested senior party officials.

Meanwhile white Rhodesians voted today in the first stage of the parliamentary elections. Lord Soames signed an order under his recently assumed anti-intimidation powers forbidding the party to hold meetings in the Triangle and Hippo Valley areas made up of estates and farms. The order has immediate effect and the weekend has been barred Mr Enos Nkala, treasurer of the party, from further participation in the campaign for allegedly inflammatory rhetoric.

The new move was prompted by reports from the area of electoral violence by Zanu, the party's military wing, which was preventing other parties from holding meetings, and of several breaches of the ceasefire.

Understand the area was chosen precisely because it is not one of the worst intimidation scenes. Officials hope that the ban will therefore have a beneficial effect and bring about an improvement in the political atmosphere.

At Shabani, towards the south of the country, police stopped a car at a road-block and arrested two officials from the Zanu (PF) headquarters in Salisbury.

Also in the car were three wounded alleged members of Zanu. This happened last night. Early today, following up leads, the police also detained two more senior party officials from Salisbury and its chief local representative. They are expected to appear in court tomorrow on charges under the Terrorism Law and Order (Maintenance) Act.

There was also an unprecident incident today at the assembly area near Bravo near Mount Darwin in the north-east. Zanu members discovered that Rhodesian security forces had illicitly set up an observation post one kilometre inside the buffer zone round the assembly area. They opened fire on it with mortars and small arms, driving off the 11 soldiers manning it, apparently without casualties on either side.

The Zanu (PF) leader, Mr Robert Mugabe, once again attacked the "wave of arrests" of his supporters, especially those at Shabani. Speaking on the lawn of his heavily-guarded home in Salisbury, Mr Mugabe said he could not understand how Lord Soames, from a country and a party proud of their democratic traditions, could allow such things.

Mr Mugabe urged Commonwealth observers, journalists and other interested parties to accompany party officials into the areas listed as being most seriously affected by intimidation in order to see for themselves.

Mr Mugabe also said that his talk yesterday with Mr Joshua

Nkomo, head of the Patriotic Front Party, had gone well. He confirmed that the two leaders, associated in the Patriotic Front alliance until Zanu (PF) decided to fight the election separately, had begun to discuss a possible agreement to cooperate.

Twenty white MPs were returned in today's poll. Fourteen returned unopposed and all members of Mr Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front, leaving only six constituencies to be contested.

Bomb deaths: At least two people were killed when a series of bomb explosions rocked Salisbury tonight, damaging a church in the centre of the city, a car in a black township, and the home of a leading official of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's UANC party.

The deaths were reported from the black township of Harare where the car was demolished but there were no reports of deaths from the two other explosions.

It was a Presbyterian church which was hit in central Salisbury—with such force that huge panes of glass were blown out of the windows. The church is near by a number of people at the hotel were wounded, caught by flying glass.

The third bomb exploded at the home of Mr Ernest Bulle, the UANC official. Police were unable to say whether Mr Bulle, a former Minister of Commerce and Industry, was in the house at the time.

Bias allegations, page 8



The Vikings are here—by Inter-City. The fearsome Danes arriving at Liverpool Street Station are in London to meet the Lord Mayor and attend The Vikings exhibition.

## Government is set to cut strikers' benefits

By Fred Emery  
Political Editor

A government plan to reduce strikers' supplementary benefits by the amount they would be "deemed" to have been paid out of union funds is to be announced soon, Mrs Margaret Thatcher confirmed yesterday.

It is expected to be announced shortly before Budget day on March 26, although the method by which it will be legislated has to be decided by the Cabinet.

The measure seems bound to provoke intense controversy in the present explosive industrial climate. Mr James Callaghan, Opposition leader, believes the idea to be monstrous and promises vigorous opposition. The Conservative Party's moderate section is also likely to become restive, particularly as Mrs Thatcher made her announcement so soon after the so-called Cabinet compromise was reached on changing the law on union immunities.

The Conservative right wing, who have been crying out for action, will be satisfied, although it cannot be until next winter that the measure is implemented.

Last month Mrs Thatcher appeared to have ruled out the idea of "deeming" a portion of someone's money, as being too difficult. Repeatedly in the course of her sole British television interview, with Mr Brian Walden on *Weekend World*, she explained how "very difficult" it was, and how she was not "enamoured of it".

It might be the only thing that could be done, she said, "but I do not like deeming, but we are looking at other ways of doing it... but I again make it perfectly clear that I am not very keen on deeming provisions because of the problem it causes between trade unionists and non-trade unionists."

There was no explanation in Whitehall of why the Prime

Minister had changed her mind on the specific issue of "deeming". It was apparently decided between ministers in the past week but has not yet been before the Cabinet.

The question of how much to "deem" has also not been decided; but ministers have been considering £10 in the case of each wage earner. If that were implemented it could mean halving the supplementary benefit. But yesterday ministers insisted the actual sum was still open.

Others recalled that Sir Keith Joseph, when Social Services Secretary, had opposed a similar proposal in 1971; the phrase he used was reported to be: "Beware, we shall have the television hunting hungry families."

However, there is no disagreement among Conservatives on the need, somehow, to prevent strikers' families getting as much social security benefit as would persons in what they might call genuine need.

Yet the deeming idea, as such, was not, as Mrs Thatcher said yesterday, in the Conservative election manifesto. It was only "We shall ensure that unions bear their fair share of the cost of supporting their members who are on strike."

Mrs Thatcher has evidently been keen to exploit public indignation with the non-payment of strike pay by the striking steel union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, while possessing assets of about £11m. The intention behind deeming is to get union members to put pressure on their unions to give strike pay.

However, the complexities arise. How would non-union strikers be affected? Would unofficial strikes as well as official ones attract the deeming provision? Last night ministers had no immediate answer except to say that it might be legislated in the post-Budget Finance Bill.

Steel benefits, page 2

## Steel craftsmen reject 'final' 14.4% offer

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

Striking craftsmen yesterday undermined the basis for renewed exploratory talks aimed at ending the national steel strike, now in its seventh week. They voted 2-1 to reject the British Steel Corporation's "final" 14.4 per cent pay and productivity offer.

The craftsmen's decision was greeted with relief by leaders of the dominant Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the National Union of Blastfurnacemen, who are to renew their tentative contacts with British Steel management, in two days' time.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the confederation, said: "This vote will cement the unions together more than they have been in the last few weeks. The possibility of stronger joint action is much greater. In my view, what British Steel call their final offer will have to be revised."

The initiative for talks on Sunday came from Dr David Greaves, British Steel's managing director for personnel.

The corporation wants to discuss the details of the draft agreement it had reached with negotiators representing the craftsmen.

But against a noisy backdrop of Welsh hymns and cries of "what do we want?—20 per cent" coming from several hundred demonstrators outside Congress House, the rank and file delegates voted 151 to 74 to defy their negotiators and reject "agreement 68", which provides for changed working practices, lower manning levels, and non-replacement of workers who leave the industry.

This unexpectedly large majority against the draft and general workers' craft settlement on which British Steel pinned hopes has shaken much of the pressure off the steelworkers and blastfurnacemen.

The steelworkers are still talking about guaranteed wage increases of not less than 13 per cent payable across the board from January 1 before they will consider serious negotiations to end their strike.

Other steel news, page 2

## Racal beats GEC in battle for Decca

The takeover battle for sailing giant Decca ended abruptly when Racal announced that it had received irrevocable acceptances from enough holders to give it voting control of the company. Racal's new share offer is worth £103m at last night's closing prices and has been backed by a £100m cash alternative. General Electric

Company, whose best offer for Decca was worth about £106m, admitted defeat as Racal had secured most voting shares. Racal's terms are three ordinary shares for each Decca ordinary and five Racal shares for every two Decca "A" non-voting shares. The cash alternative is 600p for each ordinary and 500p for each "A" share. Page 19

## Compromise on EEC budget

The European Commission has presented its revised draft of the 1980 budget to the European Parliament. It replaces an earlier draft budget which was rejected by the European Parliament last December. The revised draft is an ingenious compromise between the cash-conscious attitude of EEC member states and the demands of the European Parliament. The planned curb on agricultural spending is being opposed by farming lobbies. Page 6

## Foul cost soccer player £2,400

An amateur footballer was ordered to pay £2,400 damages to an opponent he injured in a local game. The judge at the High Court in Bristol said that the man deliberately fouled his opponent, who needed a cartilage operation and whose work had suffered. Page 4

## DPP evidence on cell deaths

Sir Thomas Hetherington, Director of Public Prosecutions, told a Commons select committee that between 1970 and 1979 inclusive, complaints had been made that in 25 cases police action had resulted in death. In none of those cases had there been a prosecution. Page 2

## Turkish troops storm factory

Hundreds of Turkish troops stormed a yarn factory in Izmir and took it after a night of fighting with workers inside protesting at mass dismissals of leftists. Violence was reported in some Turkish cities and the Cabinet called for calm. Page 9

## MIS 'check on Labour' charge

MIS and the Special Branch spent considerable time and resources checking on the activities of the Labour Party study group, it was alleged. It wants the group's services made more accountable to Parliament and disclosure of more information. Page 6

## Ulster terrorism: Newly appointed GoC issues forthright rejection of extreme military measures

Inquest juries: Home Office considers proposals for changing law after anomalies revealed in recent cases. Page 6

## Paris: Farmers demonstrate against British sheepmeat imports

Delhi: Two supporters of Mrs Gandhi win corruption case. Page 10

## Classified advertisements: Car Buyers' Guide, page 27; Holiday Homes, page 28; Personal, page 29

Leader, page 17	Letters: On unions and the law, from J. R. L. King, and others; on recruiting recruits, from Mr Stephen Smith	Leading articles: European budget, Russia and India; the Thatcher family	Arts, page 11	David Robinson, reviewing the week's films, finds in <i>Poltergeist</i> a rather over-the-top interpretation of endlessly possible interpretations; <i>Travels</i> by Ian Stevenson; <i>Ernest</i> by Graham Greene	Features, pages 10, 16	Keith Middlemas, on why the Tories and the TUC should be closer together	Obituary, page 18	Mr C. W. Goyder
Home News, 2, 4-6	European News, 6, 8	Overseas News, 8-10	Appointments, 18, 22	Arts, 11	Business, 19-23	Court, 20	Crossword, 21	Diary, 22
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## Afghan army rebellion is crushed

Kabul, Feb 14.—Soviet troops supported by tanks and two MIG23 fighter bombers have crushed an apparent rebellion at the Afghan Army garrison at Cargha, 12 miles north of Kabul, witnesses reported.

The rebellion lasted just over an hour on Monday. Western diplomats travelled to the scene from Kabul after seeing MIG jets drop bombs close to the village. Witnesses believed they were napalm bombs.

The diplomats were stopped from reaching the village by the police but managed to see Soviet troops and tanks go into action against the garrison.

They heard automatic rifle, machine-gun and tank cannon fire. No details of casualties could be obtained but several ambulances were seen taking wounded to the military hospital in Kabul.

There was no confirmation of the incident from official sources.

Outside the towns the Russians are said to be meeting stiff resistance from insurgents and Western diplomats are talking of up to 2,500 Soviet casualties with several hundred dead, since the intervention.

According to intelligence reports, a Soviet military column has entered north-east Afghanistan at the border town of Iskanan and is making for Payzawar where Afghan troops are said to be pinned down by insurgents.

Reports reaching Kabul from Kandahar, southern Afghanistan, and Herat in the west said that the battle between the two towns had ended, although the nightly rooftop protests against the Soviet presence were continuing.

In Kabul overnight on Monday, riotous fires were reported—one at the posts and telecommunications building in the centre of the city and another reportedly at an office block.

Sources said the Post Office fire occurred after curfew at 11 pm which suggested it was an act of sabotage.—Agence France-Press.

Divided Afghan Muslims, page 8

## Call for BL strike likely to be endorsed but response by members doubtful

By Clifford Webb  
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The Engineering Union's postponed call for an official strike at BL's Longbridge plant to secure the reinstatement of Derek Robinson, the dismissed leader of the shop stewards, will almost certainly be endorsed by the union's Birmingham West District Committee when it meets on Monday evening.

A senior Midlands official said last night: "Monday's meeting looks like being a formality. They will call for a strike."

There is still considerable doubt, however, about the response of the union's 8,000 members. More than 2,000 have already signed petitions, telephoned and sent letters to the union's Birmingham headquarters protesting at further strike action.

On Wednesday evening only half the union's 250 Longbridge shop stewards attended a meeting with the district committee which had been called for them to report on workers' feelings about a strike.

In preparation for Monday's strike call, the union will distribute a leaflet at Longbridge during the next 24 hours. It was described as an attempt to counter the one-sided propaganda campaign which officials claim, the management has been waging since the AUEW inquiry board found that Mr Robinson had been wrongly dismissed.

Attempts by some shop stewards yesterday to foment trouble over layoff pay seemed doomed to failure. They claimed that the company was refusing to honour the engineering industry's latest national wage agreement which calls for layoff payments of between £72 and £82 a week.

This is on average £10 a week more than the previous agreement which the stewards insisted BL would be applying because the unions had not settled their latest wage negotiations.

BL refused to comment officially last night. Unofficial sources said the stewards were wrong. The latest agreement would be honoured.

The question of the layoffs will be raised by the union at today's meeting of the BL joint negotiating committee. It will add more acrimony to relations already soured.

Sir Michael Edwards, hnt: Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of British Leyland has refused to guarantee to the tens of thousands of workers who will be laid off in the coming weeks that they will get their jobs back (Donald MacIntyre writes).

Sir Michael, who gave the strongest hint yet that he may say on at BL when his three-year secondment from Chrysler expires in October, said that less than 30,000 would be laid off and the move "was, of course, temporary."

But asked specifically whether he could promise that they would get their jobs back, Sir Michael said: "Certainly not."

Linking the lay-offs to the wage offer which unions will discuss with management today, Sir Michael said: "If we do not put the wage deal to bed, then confidence in us will sink still further."

Question Time thumping through a thick file of papers.

As opportunity after opportunity for a quick kill passed Mr Callaghan by, the Prime Minister dealt ruthlessly with the Opposition's hit men.

Finally, the question that everyone was waiting for, Mr Dennis Canavan, that fearless warrior from north of the border, who has taken over from the beast of Bolsover (Mr Dennis Skinner), as the Labour MP that Conservatives most love to hate, asked whether the Prime Minister would give an assurance that "if her Mark does decide to desert Britain, he will do so all a favour and take his Mummy with him."

As we are back so promising, would it not be better if we both stayed here, reported Mrs Thatcher, tossing a murderous smile at Mr Nassy.

By now, Tory MPs were jeering at the silent Mr Callaghan, in an attempt to goad him into action. Mr Patrick Cormack suggested that the Opposition leader might like to give some support to Mrs Thatcher for her stalwart support for the rights of law-abiding citizens. "There are times when I am grateful for his silence," remarked Mrs Thatcher, rather unkindly.

"Men Only" offer: Mr Paul Raymond, the impresario, has offered Mr Mark Thatcher, the Prime Minister's son, £25,000 a year to drive a Men only racing car (the Press Association reports).

Parliamentary report, page 14  
Leading article, page 17

## Skeleton of sacrificed youth found in Crete

From Mario Modiano  
Athens, Feb 14

A Greek archaeologist disclosed today that he had found evidence of a human sacrifice performed in the seventeenth century BC in a Cretan temple, the first such discovery in the Aegean region.

Dr Yannis Sakellarakis, keeper of the prehistoric collection of the National Archaeological Museum in Athens, made the first formal announcement of his find at the Archaeological Society tonight. Dr Sakellarakis said that the skeleton of a young man, aged 18, had been found on a sacrificial altar with a 40 cm (just over 15 in) bronze sword on it, during the exploration of a unique three-chamber temple at Arkhanes, south of Knossos.

The sacrifice—if that is what it was—evidently failed to propitiate the gods: a strong earthquake soon afterwards destroyed the temple, leaving scattered other persons whose skeletons were also found in the ruins of the stone building.

Since the days of Abraham literary references to human sacrifice abound in history and legend. In Greece, there was the sacrifice of Iphigenia in Aulis, and there was the historical account of three Persian prisoners sacrificed by Themistocles just before the battle of Salamis in 480 BC. And there were many others. However, the archaeological evidence was lacking.

Dr Sakellarakis now invokes not only the archaeological evidence but also the testimony of physicians, forensic experts and anthropologists from Athens University, to outline a daring scenario which he thinks is the most plausible.

The young man, his feet bound at the ankles, had been placed on a low stone-and-clay altar used for the sacrifice of animals, probably bulls. The altar had killed him with the bronze sword hitting on the left side of the neck, then slashing the carotid artery to cause the blood to flow into a vessel.

The earth shook soon afterwards. The roof caved in and a wooden beam killed the priest. His skeleton, that of a tall, strong man of 37, was found next to the altar in typical boxer posture, which, the experts say, is the result of the fire that destroyed the temple after the tremor.

The man wore a silver ring of silver and iron (which was

Continued on page 8, col 5

## Weakening Tito semi-conscious

Belgrade, Feb 14.—President Tito is continuing to weaken and has become semi-conscious, it was learnt here today. With the 87-year-old President's condition worsening, Mr Veselin Djuranovic, the Yugoslav Prime Minister, ended an official visit to East Berlin a day early, and Josip Vrhovac, the Foreign Minister, cancelled a trip to India.—Agence France-Press.

End of an era: The awareness that the Tito era is drawing to its end and that Yugoslavia faces a future without the man who has ruled for 35 years has dawned upon 22 million Yugoslavs, and they seem to have adjusted themselves to the fact.

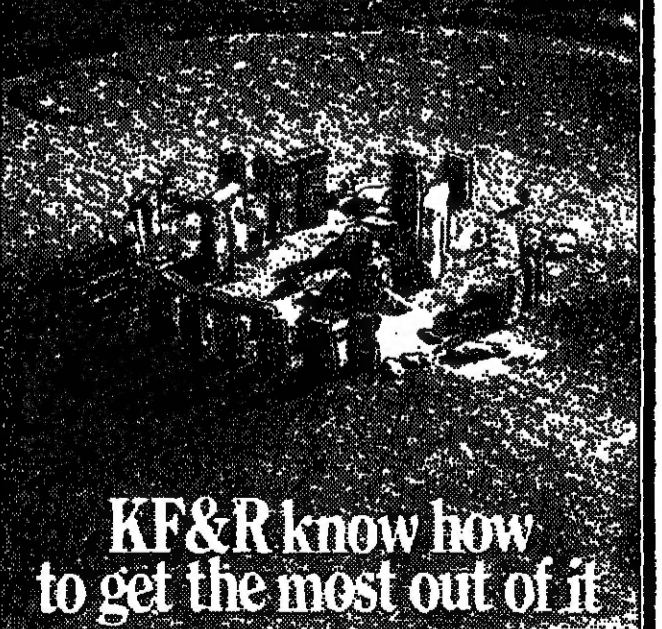
On numerous occasions in the past and especially lately President Tito used to emphasize that Yugoslavia "fears no one" but the people somehow felt that he alone could provide them with a kind of security and a barrier against the threat.

For three weeks the nation has had a foretaste of the future without him, and the leadership President Tito had selected to succeed him has faced its first real test. It has so far passed it by showing that business would continue as usual and that it intends to continue along the lines charted by President Tito.

In foreign policy the emphasis

Continued on page 9, col 1

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# HOME NEWS

## No police prosecutions in 26 cell death complaints, DPP says

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecutions, told MPs yesterday that between 1970 and 1979 inclusive there were 26 cases after a complaint in which allegations were made that police action had resulted in death. In none of those cases had there been a prosecution.

Sir Thomas, who was giving evidence to the Select Committee on Home Affairs, said that the same criteria were applied whether to a private person or a person in a position of trust like a police officer.

The first hurdle was whether a reasonable jury was likely to convict. Then, and only then, was the second hurdle faced: whether it was in the public interest to prosecute.

"We take into account the circumstances of the individual and the witnesses," he added. "If we had a death in police custody and the first hurdle was crossed I cannot conceive of any circumstances where the second hurdle would not be crossed."

Each of the 26 cases fell at the first hurdle.

Originally the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, refused to consent to Sir Thomas appearing before the committee, and he gave written evidence with Sir Michael's authority.

Asked by the committee to reconsider the decision, Sir Michael was granted two undertakings: that Sir Thomas's appearance would not be regarded as a precedent and that he would not be asked questions about individual cases.

Asked yesterday if he took into account the fact that a prosecution would bring a particular police force into dis-

## Hadfields 'death on picket line' warning

From Nicholas Timmins  
Sheffield

Workers at Hadfields, the private steel company in Sheffield, yesterday decided to join the steel strike after a day of large-scale picketing at the company's East Hecla works that saw 22 arrests among the 1,200 pickets and a policeman taken to hospital.

Mr Derek Norton, chairman of Hadfields, said the decision meant that intimidation had won a total victory "after what he described as 'appalling' scenes outside the gates early yesterday."

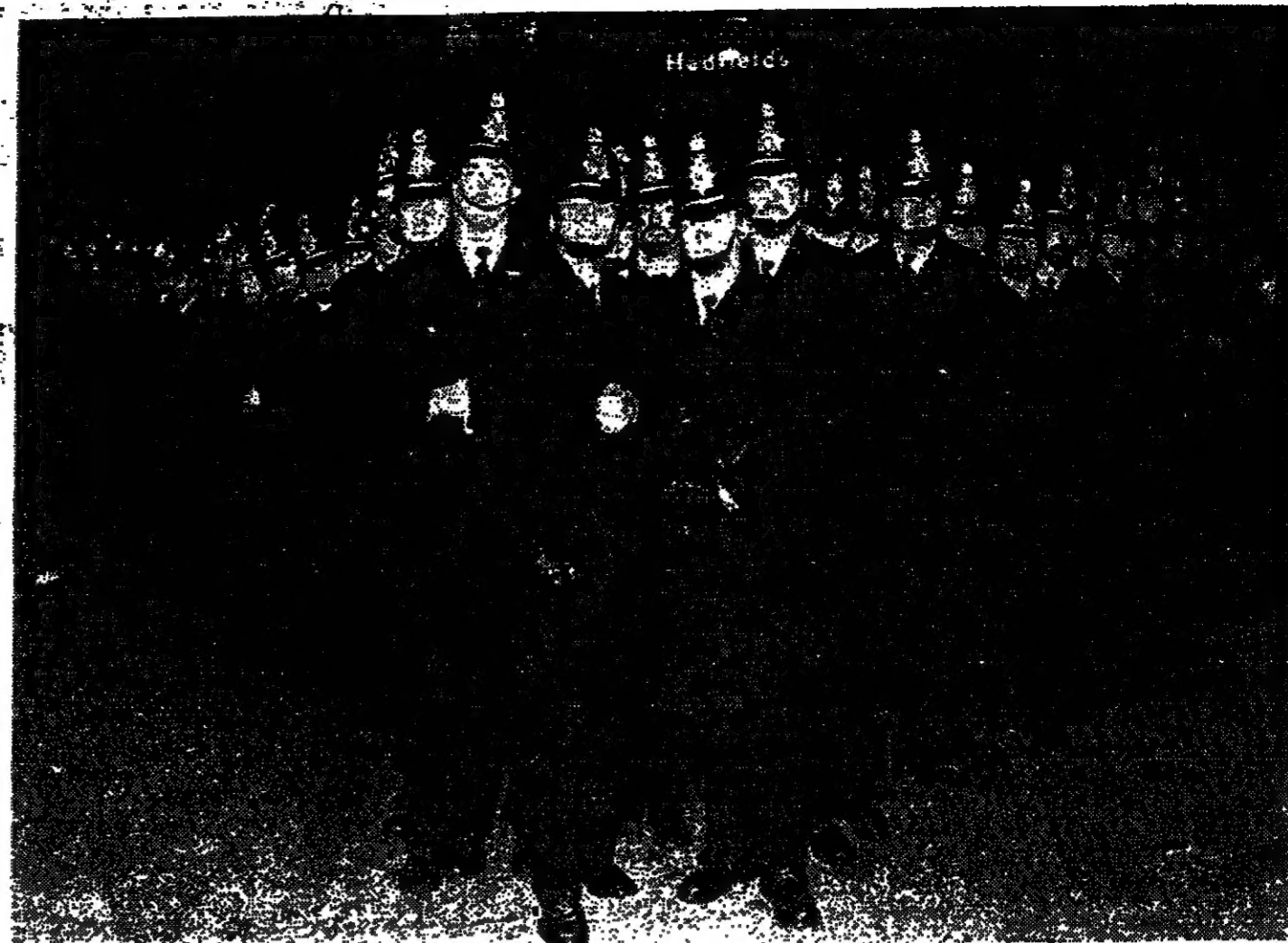
He said there was a threat to human life from the scale and nature of the picketing, and he sent a telegram to Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Employment, to urge him to legislate "yesterday not tomorrow" and to warn him that before long "someone is going to get killed outside these gates."

The decision by the 280 Iron and Steel Trades Confederation members at the company's beleaguered East Hecla works came in the afternoon, after the 120 members at the company's Leeds Road plant decided in the morning to rejoin the strike.

The decision came after the worst trouble so far outside the plant, where 23 pickets had been arrested this week.

One thousand pickets, including 350 miners with Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' president, at the head, marched on the gates shortly after 5 am, blocking the road. Five were arrested.

Scargill denied a Mr Scargill last night described as "nonsense" claims that steel workers had been intimidated by the mass



Part of the 700-man police barrier formed outside Hadfields to cope with 1,200 pickets early yesterday.

picket at the Hadfields plant. There was a display of mass union solidarity, as the (the Press Association reports). Sheerness Injuries: Two flying pickets were injured at Sheerness, Kent, yesterday in an incident involving a lorry at the entrance to the town's docks (Cable News writes). The lorry driver was being interviewed by police last night.

Both pickets were treated in hospital, one for a leg injury and the other for a cut head, before being released. They had been part of a small con-

tingent of flying pickets on duty at the docks while up to 100 other pickets blockaded the private premises nearby of the Sheerness Steel company, whose workers have defied the strike call.

Iron and Steel Trades Confederation members at Sheerness Steel said they were unconcerned by reports that the decision of Hadfields workers in Sheffield to rejoin the strike could release more flying pickets to concentrate on Sheerness.

A spokesman for the con-

very are 500 men who have gone back to work this week at two steel plants in Manchester and on Merseyside belonging to the Norwegian-owned Manchester Steel.

The company signed a 23 per cent pay deal with its manual workers at the end of last year.

Bristol arrest: A striking steelworker was arrested in Bristol yesterday after scuffles between more than 30 flying pickets and police outside Woodberry Chilcote, a firm of private steel stockpilers.

## Steel dispute means BSC must make more cuts

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Editor

The national steel strike, now in its seventh week, is likely to accelerate further change in the shape and scope of the British Steel Corporation, which will be faced with the need to conserve cash in every area of its activities.

Sir Charles Villiers, the corporation's chairman, issued that warning yesterday during a visit to Teesside, when he defended the action taken by the corporation's board in its attitude towards pay and the need for wide-ranging cutbacks.

"Strike or no strike, British Steel is in the throes of major change," he said, "because of the dangerous commercial situation in which its markets are shrinking, the pound constantly strengthening, and its cost rising faster than the prices it can charge."

If the board had not faced that change, which all its implications it would have been faced with continuing, endless heavy losses, "the permanent pensioner who in the end is crumpled off to the geriatric ward for a painless end."

The corporation would be forced, as a result of the strike, to conserve cash in every area of its activities. Decentralisation would have to be taken further.

Workers at one of Britain's main private steelmakers yesterday voted overwhelmingly in a secret ballot, against their union's instruction to continue striking and expressed the wish to return to work. Management of the GKN Brynmawr plant, in North Wales, conducted this ballot after consultation with the local Iron and Steel Trades Confederation works committee as workers collected their wages yesterday.

## Labour backs strike to fight 'jobs disaster'

From Tim Jones  
Cardiff

The Labour Party in Wales yesterday made clear that it would back strike action by trade unions in an effort to avert the "jobs disaster" it claims would affect the area if the British Steel Corporation implemented cutback proposals.

It is almost impossible to exaggerate the scale of the disaster which would overwhelm Wales if production is halved at Llanwern and Port Talbot, with a job loss of 11,337, according to the party.

That would put 19 pits at risk and push unemployment in Wales up from 80,000 to 130,000 or 13 per cent of the insured population, the party says.

Mr Hubert Morgan, the party's divisional organiser, denied it was seeking to bring the Government down. "But if necessary, people have a right to defend themselves against the consequences of these mad policies."

His party calculates that keeping the steelworks in full production would save the taxpayer from having to foot a yearly bill of £250m in unemployment benefits and a similar initial outlay in redundancy money.

Mr Jon Vaughan Jones, the party's research officer,

## Chief constables' evidence on picketing for Commons

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

Chief constables are to be invited to give evidence on picketing and demonstrations before the all-party Commons select committee on employment, it was learnt last night.

The decision to invite them comes at a time when there is mounting pressure on the Government to take rigorous action on union reform. The Cabinet this week patched up its differences over proposals for a first-stage limitation of union legal immunities, and a consultative document on the issue will be published next week.

Conservative backbench feeling on pickets was further demonstrated in the Commons yesterday when Mr John Birt, the Home Secretary, asked the Prime Minister to convey to the chief constables of police on duty at the Hadfields private steel works at Sheffield "our support and sympathy for those

## No benefits for 75% on strike

By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent

More than three-quarters of the striking steel workers have received no social security benefits, according to figures released by the Department of Health and Social Security. But benefits paid to the strikers for their families total as much as was paid during all strikes last year.

Of 150,000 steel workers on strike, only 35,645 had received benefit for their families up to Tuesday. The average amount paid was £22.16. In addition, 365 single strikers have shared £8,000 in the past six weeks.

The total of benefits paid for dependants during the strike reached £3,049,380 this week. Last year about £3m was paid during strikes.

The small proportion of steel strikers receiving benefit results from the rules on supplementary benefit which debar from benefit all single strikers except those who can prove extreme hardship; all married women; and all married men whose wives earn more than the family's benefit level plus £4.

The Engineering Employers Federation last year published a study showing that the main sources of income for strikers were pay in hand, savings and wives' earnings. And a study by Mr John Gennard, lecturer in industrial relations at the London School of Economics, showed that social security amounted to 15 per cent of the income of most strikers.

## Senior MPs seek abortion Bill compromise

By Our Political Correspondent

Five senior members of the House of Commons last night appealed to fellow MPs to come to a compromise agreement on the Abortion (Amendment) Bill, which resumes its report stage in the House today.

The MPs are Mr Jo Grimond, the former Liberal leader, Mr Edward du Cann, former Conservative Party chairman and now 1922 Committee chairman, Sir Derek Walker-Smith, Conservative MP for Herefordshire, East, Mr Frederick Mulley, Labour MP for Sheffield, Park, and Mr Arthur Bottomley, a former Labour Cabinet minister.

They say they believe that wide agreement now exists for a reduction of the period when

an abortion can be allowed to 24 weeks.

Mr John Corrie, Conservative MP for Ayrshire, North and Bute, said earlier this week that he would be prepared to support a compromise of 22 weeks. But he thought that 24 weeks was "too late" and the focus might be viable at that stage, especially if a doctor's diagnosis was a week out.

Five MPs hope that in return for agreement on the compromise the sponsors of the Bill would be willing to withdraw other sections of the measure. As MPs left the House last night many seemed unaware of the appeal, and it could be that the group of five have left it too late for their words to have much effect on today's proceedings.

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## Imports costing many jobs, Mr Benn says

By Our Political Staff

A flood of imports, especially of cars and steel, much from the EEC, was costing tens of thousands of jobs, Mr Wedgwood Benn, Labour MP for Bristol, South-east, said yesterday.

He told members of Chorley Labour Party at Adlington that British exports were being lost because North Sea oil was making the pound so expensive that our products were losing their competitive edge.

"Nine months of Tory rule have been a disaster for Britain and unless the Government is forced back by public pressure or forced out by public opinion this country will be so badly damaged that it could take 10 years to put it on its feet again," he said.

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## Rises of up to £40 a week for NUM leaders

By Our Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday awarded themselves pay increases of up to £43 a week in the wake of the 20 per cent settlement in the coal industry.

The deal gives Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and Mr Lawrence Daly, the general secretary, about £15,000 a year, on a par with colliery managers, to whose salary levels their wages are now linked.

The pay of colliery union leaders, such as Mr Arthur Scargill of Yorkshire, and Mr Michael McGahey, of Scotland, is expected to rise to about £13,000 a year, and the minimum for area agent is to go up to £8,000 a year.

The minimum rate for coal-face workers is just over £100 a week, but average earnings are substantially higher, rising in some cases to £150, through productivity bonuses.

The daily rate for expenses for NUM leaders is to rise by £5 to £25.

## Union formed for catering and hotel workers

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

A new union was launched yesterday with the aim of recruiting 750,000 workers to the hotel and catering industry who do not belong to a union.

It will come under the umbrella of the General and Municipal Workers Union and is named the Hotel and Catering Workers' Union. It will try to build on the 30,000 workers already members of the GMWU.

Mr David Bassett, general secretary of the GMWU, said yesterday: "The hotel and catering industry is an industry of enormous importance for the country; it is a profitable industry, but it is an industry whose importance is not recognized in rewards to its employees.

While tariffs at London hotels had risen by 84 per cent since 1976, hotel workers' pay had risen by just over 40 per cent.

## Debate on rural post offices

By Our Political Editor

The Government is expected to announce next Tuesday how it proposes to give effect to Sir Derek Rayner's proposals for reducing the frequency and varying the method of payment of security benefits, which has been widely taken as a threat to the viability of rural sub-postoffices.

The Labour Opposition has chosen to debate the issue and its hope will be to embarrass the Government by attracting Conservative backbench support. More than 100 MPs, including many Conservatives, have signed a number of early day motions protesting at any

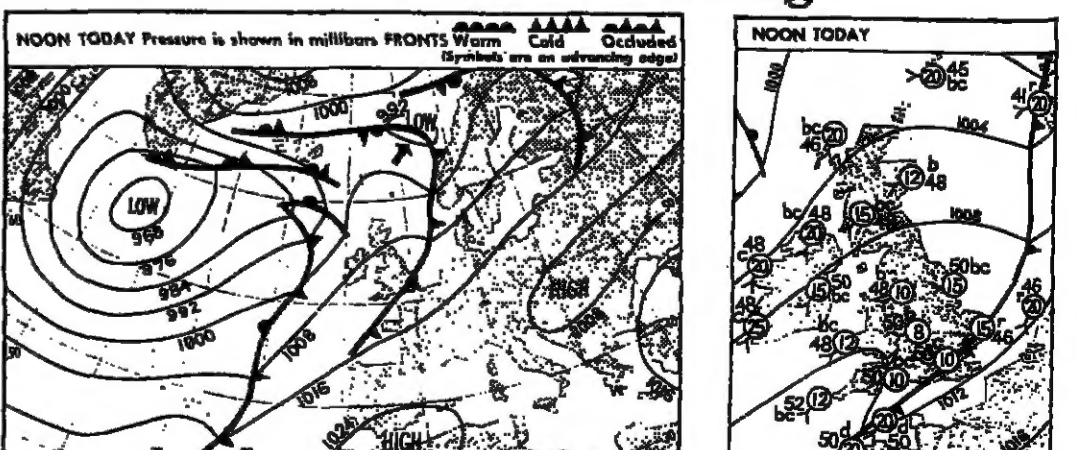
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## Weather forecast and recordings



## Sortie by Mrs Thatcher

By Our Political Editor

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will make a rare outing today to the edge of the West Country, visiting factories in Wilton, Devon and Calne and taking a mid-morning walkabout in Salisbury.

It will be her first "high visibility" sortie, designed to gain television and local news coverage, since last September, according to D. Owens Street, Salisbury, who visited Ulster on Christmas eve and take a New Year holiday in Scotland.

Among factories visited will be the Harris company ham and sausage plant at Calne, where workers are being made redundant. It was added to her itinerary after an adjournment debate on the redundancies was held in the Commons after midnight yesterday, which Mrs Thatcher attended.

A further sign that the Prime Minister intends to resume her public campaign against critics came in a Cabinet minister's private tip that she intends shortly to break her virtual silence and return to the television screen for an interview.

## New licences to seek oil on land

By Nicholas Hirst  
Energy Correspondent

Seven licences for the search for oil and gas reserves in the heart of the English countryside have been awarded by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy.

They have been granted to RTZ Oil and Gas, to a consortium led by British Petroleum and to Amoco UK and the cover parts of Yorkshire, Humberside, the South Midlands and Southern England, including an area between Hastings and the private Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway.

500 gallons of crude a day are easily profitable and with the soaring price of oil, exploration companies are prepared to explore any reasonable onshore prospect.

The licences granted by Mr Howell allow seismic surveys and only minor drilling to a depth of 350 metres, not nearly deep enough to reach oil-bearing rocks. Even so, planning permission must be sought.

If the results are promising, companies may apply for production licences. Planning permission is again needed before full-scale drilling rigs can be installed.

Today  
Sun rises: 7.16 am  
Moon rises: 6.38 am  
Sun sets: 5.14 pm  
Moon sets: 4.17 pm

New moon: Tomorrow.  
Lighting up: 5.44 pm to 6.44 am.  
High water: London Bridge, 12.38 am, 6.7m; 1.7 pm, 2.0m. Avonmouth, 6.21 am, 13.0m; 6.46 pm, 13.2m. Dover, 9.57 am, 6.4m; 10.26 pm, 6.6m. Hull, 5.19 am, 6.9m; 5.34 pm, 7.2m. Liverpool, 10.22 am, 9.3m; 10.49 pm, 9.2m. 1ft=0.3048m. 1m=3.2808ft.

A weak trough of low pressure will be slow moving over SE Britain. A ridge of high pressure is crossing the N and W.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:  
London, East Anglia, Midlands, SE and central S England: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain in places, clearing slowly; wind SW, moderate becoming variable; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).

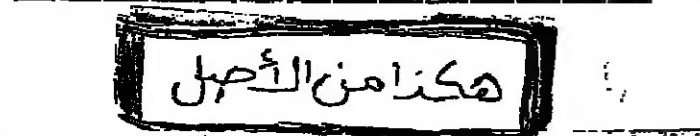
W Midlands, E and central N England, Channel Islands: Mainly dry, rather cloudy in places at first, bright or sunny periods developing; wind variable, becoming

W to SW, moderate; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).  
Lake District, NE, NW, and SW England, Wales, and NE Scotland: Mainly dry, bright or sunny periods; wind W, moderate; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).  
Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, central Highlands, SW and NE Scotland: Mainly dry, bright or sunny periods; wind W, moderate; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).  
Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: Mainly dry with sunny intervals, probably cloudier, later with evening rain in W; wind SW to S, moderate, perhaps fresh; max temp 8° or 9°C (46° to 48°F).  
Orkney, Shetland: Isolated showers, sunny intervals; wind W, moderate to fresh; max temp 6° or 7°C (43° to 45°F).  
Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mainly dry in S and E, with sunny intervals after overnight patches; N and W cloudier, with occasional rain or drizzle; Mild. Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel

Overseas selling prices

Commodity	Unit	Price
Australia	1000	12.50
Canada	1000	12.50
Denmark	1000	12.50
France	1000	12.50
Germany	1000	12.50
Italy	1000	12.50
Japan	1000	12.50
Netherlands	1000	12.50
Portugal	1000	12.50
Spain	1000	12.50
Sweden	1000	12.50
Switzerland	1000	12.50
U.K.	1000	12.50
U.S.A.	1000	12.50
West Germany	1000	12.50
Yugoslavia	1000	12.50

Published daily except Sundays, January 1, December 25 and Christmas Eve. Prices are in pence per tonne. All prices are subject to change without notice. All telegraphic rates on request.





## Picture the scene:

On the one hand, a man born, bred and hardened in the West Riding, running his own small chemical company.

On the other, a man born, bred and hardened in West Byfleet, running a large investment company somewhere in the City.

The only thing they have in common is money.

One needs it. The other has popped up from the City for the day to see if he can help.

But it's going to take more than the knowledge of the finer points of finance.

Because, financing and also helping smaller businesses is a highly specialised and local affair.

And frankly, no one can help you better than ICFC.

That's because over the years we've dealt exclusively with small businessmen, so we reckon to understand them pretty well.

You'll see what we mean if you contact one of our offices dotted around the country.

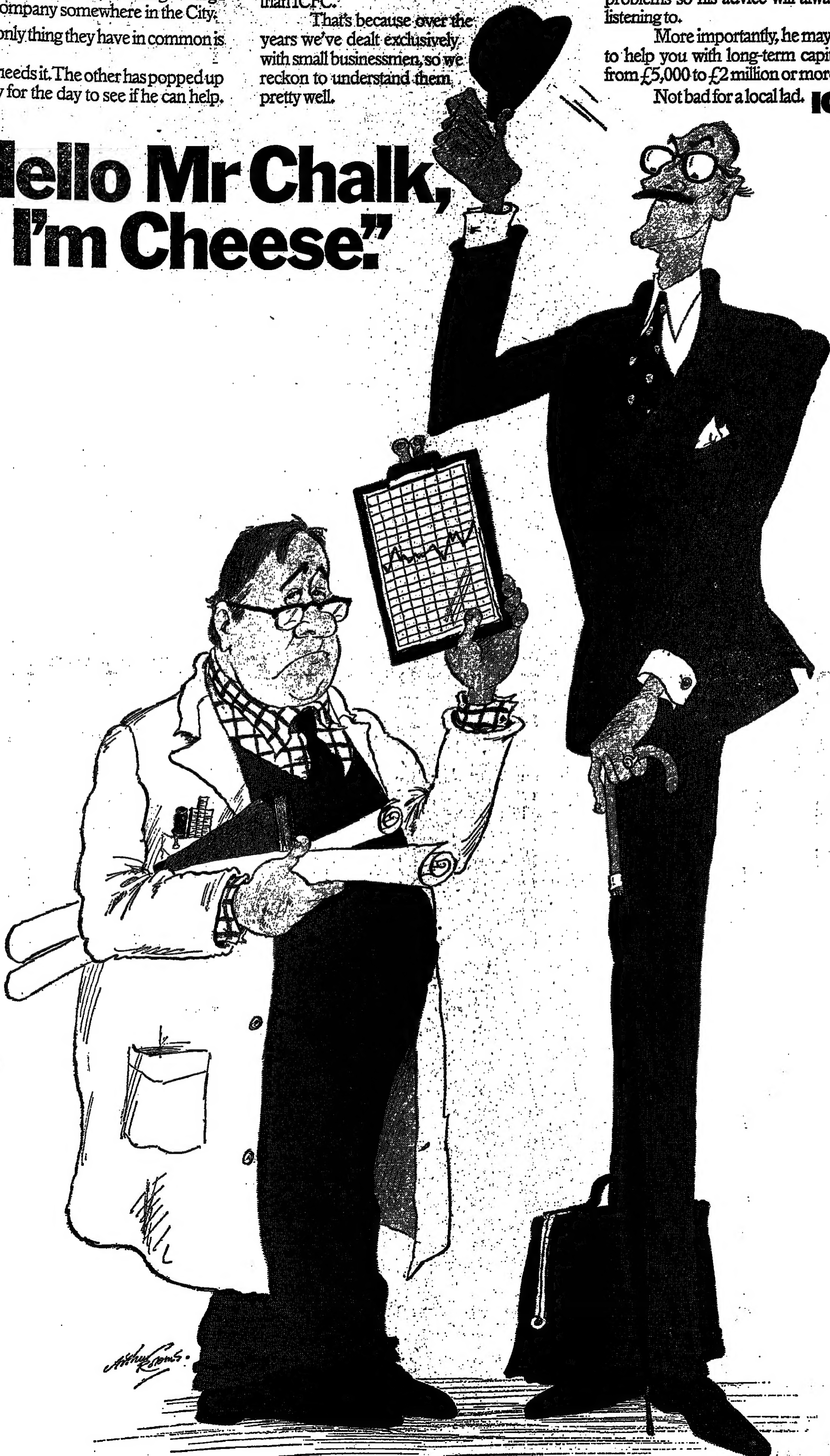
Each one is run by a man who knows the area and the people like the back of his hand.

He will understand you and your problems so his advice will always be worth listening to.

More importantly, he may well be able to help you with long-term capital, anything from £5,000 to £2 million or more.

Not bad for a local lad. **ICFC**

# "Hello Mr Chalk, I'm Cheese."





## HOME NEWS

## Parents give 'Dr Who' a bitter pill to swallow

By Kenneth Gosling

Violence and cruelty in television programmes are still worrying parents, according to a survey carried out for TV Times. They were less worried, however, about the portrayal of sex and only 8 per cent of 500 mothers who were questioned gave it as a reason for concern.

Parents seemed reluctant to ban particular programmes. Of those they felt should be taken off, the BBC's *Dr Who* came at the top of the list, but was mentioned by only 6 per cent of people questioned.

European Marketing Surveys found that nearly all the mothers they spoke to said their children watched television every day; 67 per cent agreed that it was a useful way of holding their children's attention.

Just under half the children between five and eight years old watched right up to their bedtimes and 34 per cent in the same group were allowed to watch later at weekends.

As for the programmes their offspring enjoyed most, 82 per cent of mothers singled out *The Muppet Show*. *Blue Peter* was also rated highly.

Among the programmes mothers disapproved of were a number screened after the 9 pm "watershed" when television companies allow shows of a more adult nature to be screened.

These included *The Professionals*, *Quatermass and the Pit*, but adventure series before 9 pm like *Chips*, *Charlie's Angels* and *Hawaii Five-O* were more acceptable.

## Plans for pay television service expected within a few days

By David Hewson

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is expected to announce plans for a pay television service within the next few days.

Three of Britain's largest television rental companies, Rediffusion, British Relay and Radio Rentals, are at an advanced stage in planning applications to operate a service that could start next year.

Initially the service would consist of evening showings of recent films, and would be confined to areas served by a cable television network. This now covers only 14 per cent of British television viewers, who would pay about £4 to £5 a month for the service.

If the initial projects were

successful the cable networks could be extended and production facilities could be provided specifically to make programmes for the system, it was predicted yesterday by Mr Nicolas Mellersh, the head of Rediffusion's pay television development unit.

It is expected that the Home Office will write to the BBC, the Independent Broadcasting Authority, cinema and cable television companies and local authorities during the next few days setting out its plans for the service.

Mr Whitelaw may also outline the Government's proposals during the second reading of the Broadcasting Bill on Monday.

The idea is being greeted

with enthusiasm within the BBC, not because it would like to operate parts of the service, but because it is keen to sell its popular programmes to independent contractors.

The independent television companies' cable television committee has yet to decide on whether it would make or sell programmes for the system.

Rediffusion is engaged on market research in Hull, where it has 30,000 homes on a cable system.

Other possible areas for a pay service are Swindon, Greenwich and Sheffield. London, Birmingham and Manchester do not have a cable service and could be connected to a system only at considerable expense.

## 'Country cottage' restriction added to Bill

By John Young

Planning Reporter

An important safeguard in the Housing Bill to prevent council tenants who purchase their homes from reselling them as "country cottages" was announced by the Government yesterday.

An amendment introduced by Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, during the Bill's committee stage places further restrictions on the sale of houses in national parks, areas of outstanding natural beauty and designated rural regions of Wales.

The amendment states that the purchasing tenant may not dispose of the property within 10 years without first offering to sell it back to the local authority. The price to be paid

will normally be that which it would fetch on the open market, as determined by the district valuer.

The Government's action was warmly welcomed by the National Farmers' Union, Shelter, Plaid Cymru and the Standing Conference of Rural Community Councils, who had called a press conference to draw attention to the danger of a virtual disappearance of low-priced rented housing in many rural areas.

Particular tribute was paid to two Conservative backbenchers, Mr Michael Mates, MP for Petersfield, and Mr Anthony Durant, MP for Reading, North, who, with Mr Dafydd Thomas, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, had campaigned for a change in the Bill.

Mr Neil McIntosh, director of Shelter, said that the Bill went a long way to meeting Shelter's requests, although the concept of rural areas still needed to be enlarged and redefined. Mr David Clark, of the National Council of Social Services, said the task now would be to ensure that local authorities undertook their responsibility to repair those houses that were offered to them.

Shelter yesterday published statistics indicating that there are some 120,000 second homes in England and Wales. The largest concentrations are in Wales, where there have recently been several arson attacks, and in Cumbria, North Yorkshire, Norfolk, East and West Sussex, Kent, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall.

## Salt marsh reclamation cost 'not justified'

By Our Planning Reporter

There was no economic case for the reclamation of about 200 acres of salt marsh at Geddey Drove End, on the south-west shore of the Wash, a public inquiry was told yesterday.

Giving evidence on behalf of the Nature Conservancy, Mr John Bowers, a senior lecturer in economics at Leeds University, said that even if the extra agricultural land could be created at no cost, and with no detriment to the environment, he would have serious reservations on whether it would be worth while.

Mr Bowers contended that the crops likely to be grown on the land either were already, or were likely to be, in surplus within the EEC. Taking into account Britain's contributions to the common agricultural policy, the cost of reclamation could not be justified in terms of a saving on imports.

## General rejects hard response to defeat terrorists

## 'Extreme steps' in Ulster ruled out

From Christopher Thomas

Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Lawson, GOC, and director of military operations, Northern Ireland, yesterday rejected extreme military measures against terrorism.

In his first public speech since his appointment last month, he made clear that he would not respond to those who wanted him to "go in hard and flush out those terrorists whatever the cost" or who said that "what we want are bodies, and we do not care how you get them".

He told a Chamber of Commerce lunch: "I am not in that business. I have not come here to destroy Ulster. Nor have I any intention of leading my soldiers to defeat. For such a wild and totally impracticable course of action is not only a guaranteed recipe for disaster, it is also a sure-fire way to give the terrorist his victory on a plate."

Sir Richard acknowledged that terrorism would be some time, but he believed the trend was down-



Sir Richard Lawson: "I am not here to destroy Ulster."

wards. As a result of the growing strength and professionalism of the police and the continuing presence of the Army, the terrorist had publicly conceded that a military victory was not within his grasp.

The terrorist could no longer

pose as a Robin Hood or William Tell. Daily, he was being pushed further out towards the fringes of society.

"As he looks to the future the terrorist has only one hope left, and that is that we will make the mistake from which he can benefit, and his actions are now geared towards provoking us to overreact to his advantage. It is very much like judo; using your opponents' muscles to achieve a win."

Sir Richard was at pains to emphasize the level of cooperation existing between the police and the Army. He and the Chief Constable, Mr John Hermon, "think as one" and had mutual trust.

He insisted that this was the time for a cool head and sustained courage. "I am confident that with good police and Army work we shall bring the killers and the bombers to book."

The Army had no plans to withdraw. There would be changes in the pattern of deployment, but the changes would be made with the aim of sharpening the operations and in consultation with the police.

## Diver may check wreck for remaining poison canisters

By a Staff Reporter

A diver may be sent down to inspect the wreck of the *Acolian Sky* to see how many canisters of chemicals remain in the ship, the Department of Trade said yesterday.

Canisters from the ship, which sank 12 miles east of Portland Bill on November 4, have been washed up on the

south coast. Some contain arsenic trichloride, the fumes of which are highly dangerous. A further 64 were picked up by fishermen on Isle of Wight beaches yesterday and analysed.

The results of tests on the three dead whales found on the south coast this week will be available on Tuesday. Asbestos danger: Police and

health officials were yesterday seeking someone who has been dumping deadly blue asbestos beside busy main road (Our Colchester Correspondent writes).

More than four tons, in orange bags marked "danger" was left in and around the village of Navestock, near Brentwood, Essex.

A police official said: "This material, which can cause permanent damage to health, has been turning up over the past two weeks."

"We're pretty sure it has all been cleared but we are concerned because it has been dumped. We are warning children in particular not to touch any suspect bags."

## Footballer to pay £2,400 to opponent he fouled

From Our Correspondent

Bristol An amateur footballer was counting the cost yesterday of a foul tackle that landed him in court. Derek Shilson, aged 25, was ordered to pay £2,400 damages to a man he put in hospital during a local league "derby".

The High Court in Bristol found that Mr Shilson, of Park Lane, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol, had deliberately set out to foul an opponent. He tackled Mr Paul Manning after a corner and left him "screaming with pain on the ground," Judge Fallon, QC, decided.

The referee of the game, between Frampton Athletic FC and Stapleton FC, Mr Stephen White, said that he thought Mr Shilson, a defender for Frampton, had gone for the man rather than the ball. He sent Shilson off and Mr Manning was taken to hospital, where he needed a cartilage operation on his left knee.

Mr Manning, aged 26, a car-

penter, of Stapleton, Bristol, said that he could no longer work on roofs after the injury, in March, 1978. He was being paid £5 a week less because he could not do the same job as other carpenters or climb up ladders.

Mr Shilson, who married last Saturday, said he had gone for the ball but made a late tackle. Mr White sent him off for his own safety, as he was angry spectators and players milled around, and not because of the foul.

After the hearing Mr Shilson said he did not know how he was going to pay the damages: "There is no way I am going to play soccer again after this," he said. "I cannot afford to take the risk."

"I have had many injuries in football myself, but I do not take people to court for it. If everyone who fouled a player was taken to court, it would be a pretty mess."

Mr Manning refused to com-

## Stricter contract sought for marriage with children

A stricter wedding contract for adults who decide to have children is urged today in a book commissioned by the Government. Two types of marriages should be considered, a looser agreement for childless couples and a more binding one for those intending to have a family, Dr Mia Kellmer Pringle, director of the National Children's Bureau, says.

In the book, *The Needs of Children*, commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Security, she says that the necessity to bring children up in a secure and stimulating environment is being increasingly neglected.

The views of women's rights groups and the preoccupation with material possessions is often devaluing the family unit, she says.

"Should there be two different forms of marriage?" she asks. "One would involve only a simple contract, designed to protect the interests of both partners in case of a breakdown, which could be terminated readily at the request of either."

"The other contract would involve a much more binding commitment of at least 10 or 15 years, because the couple were wishing to raise a family and were prepared to put the needs of their children above their own individual self-fulfilment."

"This contract would be much more difficult to terminate."

Dr Kellmer Pringle said yesterday that she believed a scheme of that kind would prevent the trend towards "serial marriages," which are common in the United States and becoming increasingly common here.

"Today's children are the seed corn of the future. How we treat them will determine the quality of life for tomorrow. The denigration of parenting and the devaluing of children has now really reached quite horrific proportions."

She would like also to see introduced a curb on people below the age of 18 or 20 from having children.

## £100m EEC loan offer for nuclear station

From Our Own Correspondent

Edinburgh The European Community is to offer loan facilities of £100m to the South of Scotland Electricity Board as contribution to the cost of building the nuclear power station at Torness Point, East Lothian.

The loan will be the first financial approval for the United Kingdom under the Euratom loan scheme and is in line with the commission's policy of reducing EEC dependence on imported oil by developing alternative sources of energy.

At a summit meeting last June the heads of state and government of the nine Community countries agreed that nuclear energy in the coming decades no economic growth would be possible. Nuclear programmes must therefore be given strong, fresh impetus. At the same time the Euratom loan fund was increased from £350m to £1,000m.

## Objectors fail in action against Fife gas plant

From Our Own Correspondent

Edinburgh Objectors to the £500m gas processing plant being built by Shell-Eso in Fife, Scotland, have lost a court action to prevent the development. In a judgment delivered yesterday in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, Lord Emslie rejected the claim by the Aberdeen and Dalgety Bay Action Group that Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, had acted wrongly in granting planning permission.

Site work has started at Mossburn and on preparation for the marine terminal at Braefoot Bay, on the Forth estuary.

The company hopes the plant will be operating by the end of 1982, taking gas from the Brest Field.

The protest group plan to oppose the project at every stage of construction and operation and a petition to the European Court of Human Rights is being considered.

## Sealink strike called off

Sealink ships' officers at Harwich yesterday called off a strike due to have started at 7 am. The 180 officers, members of the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association, had voted to strike in a dispute over pay differentials with ratings.

They called off the action after meeting docks management yesterday. A Sealink official said: "The ships are sailing and there is now no dispute." Sealink had said the strike would threaten some commercial linkings to Zeebrugge and Dunkirk.

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## HOME NEWS

## Increase in London parking fines is urged

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

The fixed penalty fine for illegal parking in London should be increased from £6 to £10, but offenders should be given a discount for paying promptly, a report on the enforcement of parking restrictions states.

It also urges increased pay for traffic wardens so that enough can be recruited, and says that more prosecutions should be heard at suburban courts.

The report, to the Greater London Council, is by a working party set up jointly by the Home Secretary and the Minister of Transport after complaints from the GLC that its traffic management policies were being undermined by lack of enforcement.

The report says that traffic congestion in London is getting worse. Average speeds have fallen from 14 mph to 12 mph during the morning peak in central London in the past five years.

Advocating a discount for prompt payment of fines, the report says that of 1,500,000 tickets issued in 1978, fewer than 10 per cent were paid within 28 days. Discount for early payment should reduce the number of cases in which the full money is spent treating the vehicle.

There are about 1,150 traffic wardens in London, compared with the 2,500 needed.

## 12 years for Dutchmen in Scotland's worst case under drugs Act

From Ronald Faux  
Edinburgh

Three Dutchmen were jailed for 12 years each yesterday after they were found guilty at the High Court in Edinburgh of being concerned in the unlawful production of the drug, methyl amphetamine.

Jan Stuurman, aged 28, Dick Ruiter, aged 40, and Albertus Merks, aged 34, were also found guilty of being in possession of 2,349 grammes of the drug. The offences took place at Cleves Cottage, West Linton, Peeblesshire, and at an address in Monikie, Angus.

After a 14-day trial the jury took an hour and 20 minutes to return their unanimous verdicts of guilty.

The judge, Lord Allanbridge, had heard that Mrs Reinette Stuurman, aged 21, who faced a charge of being concerned in the production of the drug, should be discharged because there was not enough evidence against her.

Passing sentence, the judge described the offences as probably the most serious under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 to come before the Scottish courts. He told the three men: "I entirely agree with the forensic reports which indicate your complete operation had been studied in detail, carefully researched and meticulously planned." Such criminal activities would not be tolerated in Scotland.

He commended the police who took part in what became known as "operation Muller".

A dawn raid on Cleves Cottage and the Monikie address culminated in the arrest of the three men after months of police observation.

From the time suspicions were aroused, the judge said, the handling of investigations by every single police officer concerned merited the highest praise. Any false move would have alerted the criminals, but in the event the net of "operation Muller" was closed at exactly the right time.

During the trial the court was told how a modern bungalow in Monikie became "the suburban front" to a European drugs organization. The organization was funded mainly from Holland and its objective was to make methyl amphetamine for the European market. Mr Stuurman was described as the "chemist". Mr Ruiter, his assistant, passed himself off as handyman, gardener and chauffeur, and Mr Merks was described as the "European supervisor and courier" of the operation.

Sophisticated equipment: White-walled Cleves Cottage at West Linton, described by police as a chemical Aladdin's cave, was the centre of Mr Stuurman's plan to set up a production line that could have turned out amphetamines with a value of up to £70m (the Press Association reports).

It contained sophisticated equipment and enough chemicals to produce 60 million tablets of methyl amphetamine, known as "speed".

## Whitelaw pledge of more aid for immigrants

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

More money is to be provided for language teaching for immigrants to help them to settle in Britain, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said last night.

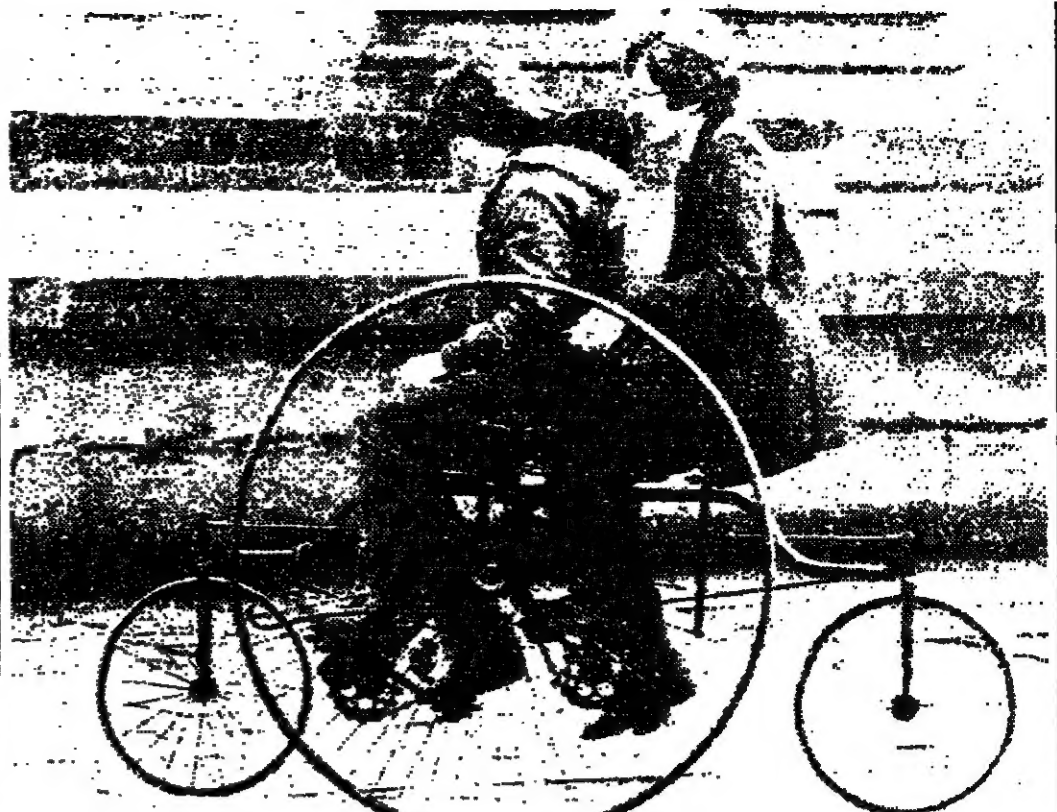
Funds from the Manpower Services Commission for industrial language training are to be increased and £30m will go this year in grants to local authorities to meet Commonwealth immigrants' special needs. Most of it will go towards education.

Mr Whitelaw was accentuating the positive in a sensitive political role. He was guest of honour at a dinner party organized by the Union of Muslim Organizations of the United Kingdom and Eire to celebrate the Prophet's birthday.

The Home Secretary commented: "I hope that we shall before long be able to put behind us the arguments about immigration and the changes in the immigration rules."

He added that he wanted to focus rather on people in minorities living in Britain.

He concluded: "Parliament and government has made and will continue to make changes to enable members of the ethnic minorities to have equal opportunities. By the same token, those who have decided to come and settle here will accept, as I am sure so many do, that they, too, will need to adjust and strike roots in our society."



Dr Graham Nicholson (right), curator of the Castle Museum, York, trying out his latest acquisition, an 1878 Rudge tandem tricycle.

## Few complaints about package holidays

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Nearly two thirds of those who took package holidays in the 12 months to October last year were "very satisfied". That is the outcome of a survey carried out by National Opinion Polls for the Office of Fair Trading.

A quarter of the 700 respondents were "quite satisfied" with their holidays and only 3 per cent said they were "not at all satisfied".

Most complaints were about serious delays in travelling, the food, hotel facilities, changed holiday arrangements and overbooking of hotels. Nearly one eighth of the holidaymakers

did not know whether they had been covered by holiday insurance.

The Association of British Travel Agents said: "The survey highlights difficulties we are already aware of the worst of which is the air traffic controllers' disputes, causing delays to holiday flights."

## Alcoholism rise 'due to fall in real price'

The cost of coping with alcoholism is reaching "frightening proportions", Sir Bernard Braine, chairman of the National Council on Alcoholism, claimed yesterday.

He blamed the increase in drinking on the fall in the relative price of drink. It was disturbing that more women and children were needing treatment, he told a conference organized by Alcoholics Anonymous in London.

Sir Bernard, Conservative MP for Essex, South-east, said the cost to industry in managerial misjudgment, poor decision-making, faulty work and absenteeism was estimated at £350m a year.

"Add to this figure the economic and social cost of hospitalization and permanent injury, and the burden reaches frightening proportions", he said.

The pressure on the National Health Service was becoming intolerable. In the last 10 years admissions to hospitals for the treatment of alcoholism had doubled.

In 1950 a male manual worker in Britain on average wages had to work 23 minutes to earn the price of a pint of beer and six and a half hours to earn the price of a bottle of whisky. By 1976 the price of beer had come down to 12 minutes and the bottle of whisky to only two hours.

Sir Bernard urged that a consistent relationship should be achieved between the price of alcohol and the level of disposable income.

## NF opponents prepare to unite in counter-march

By David Nicholson-Lord

Other opponents of the National Front are likely to fall into line with yesterday's decision by the Anti-Nazi League to change the date of a counter-demonstration against the front in south London.

The league's decision came after Wednesday's disclosure by the NF that it would be staging an "anti-mugging" march starting at Canningwell on March 2, not at Canningwell on March 2, as originally announced. NF leaders said that was a "ruse" designed to show publicly that the violence associated with its marches was sought by left-wing opponents.

The Anti-Nazi League, together with the Southwark Campaign against Racism and Fascism (Scar) and the Labour Party Young Socialists, had planned to counter-march on

February 24. Mr Jerry Fitzpatrick, the league's national organizer, yesterday denied that it was playing into the hands of the NF by changing the date. "We are clearly aware of the intention behind the front's announcement, but their propaganda machine is trying to represent the opposite of the truth", he said. "Our raison d'être is to oppose peacefully any manifestation of the National Front and its violence in the public arena."

Scar is meeting tonight to discuss the front's announcement. Mr Fitzpatrick said campaign members had indicated that the meeting would support postponing the planned counter-demonstration. Approval for a route for a counter-march in the Southwark area would be sought from Scotland Yard.

## Court power over property after divorce proposed

By Our Legal Correspondent

A court should have the power to order the sale of property after a divorce, a report by the Law Commission proposes.

A court has extensive powers to redistribute capital assets after divorce, nullify proceedings or judicial separation. But it has no express powers to order property to be sold, although that result can be achieved in a more circuitous way.

The commission's recommendation is designed to simplify and rationalize the court's powers, rather than to confer new benefits on parties to a divorce. Report on orders for sale of property under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 (Law Commission 93, Stationery Office, £1.75).

## Press Council backs theatre

The Press Council yesterday upheld a complaint that the London Evening News gave the National Theatre inadequate time to investigate and comment on damaging and groundless allegations about extravagant spending before it published them.

However, it rejected the theatre's complaint that the newspaper gave insufficient prominence to a rebuttal.

## Prison officers on assault charges

Three prison officers at Peterhead top security prison were accused at Peterhead Sheriff Court yesterday of assaulting prisoners. Pleas of not guilty were tendered by a solicitor in their absence.

The men, McKennie Brebner, aged 32, Alan Ross, aged 31, and Cyril Wallace, aged 34, were committed to appear in Peterhead on June 5.

## Princess 'much better'

Princess Margaret, who has had a virus infection, was "up and about and feeling much better", it was said at Clarence House yesterday.

## 'Body in quarry' hearing

From Our Correspondent

Magistrates at Chorley, Lancashire, yesterday fixed committal proceedings for May 19 in respect of 11 people facing charges arising from the death of Mr Christopher Martin Johnson, aged 27, a New Zealander, whose handless body was found in a flooded quarry at Eccleston, near Chorley, in October.

The accused are charged with the conspiracy to contravene the Misuse of Drugs Act and five of them are also accused of Mr Johnson's murder and conspiracy to murder him.

## In brief

## Proposals sent to Princes

Valentine cards poured into Buckingham Palace yesterday for the Prince of Wales and Prince Andrew. The Palace said those to Prince Charles contained "a substantial number of marriage proposals".

The number of Valentine cards Prince Andrew has received is statistically distorted because many girls have taken the opportunity of also wishing him happy birthday. He will be 20 on Tuesday.

## Action over cruise

The Greek owners of La Perla, the Cypriot-flag cruise ship being held at Liverpool pending the outcome of litigation over an ill-starred Christmas cruise which included a hamburger lunch on Christmas Day, said in Athens yesterday that they were taking legal action against the British charterers.

## 'Rebellion' ruling soon

Mr Justice Woolf, in the High Court, will rule next week on whether Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, overstepped his powers by disbanding Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham area health authority, in London, which had refused to make spending cuts.

## Lifeboat 'joyride'

A labourer, Alexander Anthony, aged 30, of Tooting Bec, London, was jailed for a year at Lewes Crown Court yesterday after admitting taking a £2,400 lifeboat from Brighton marina for a "joyride" in the Channel.

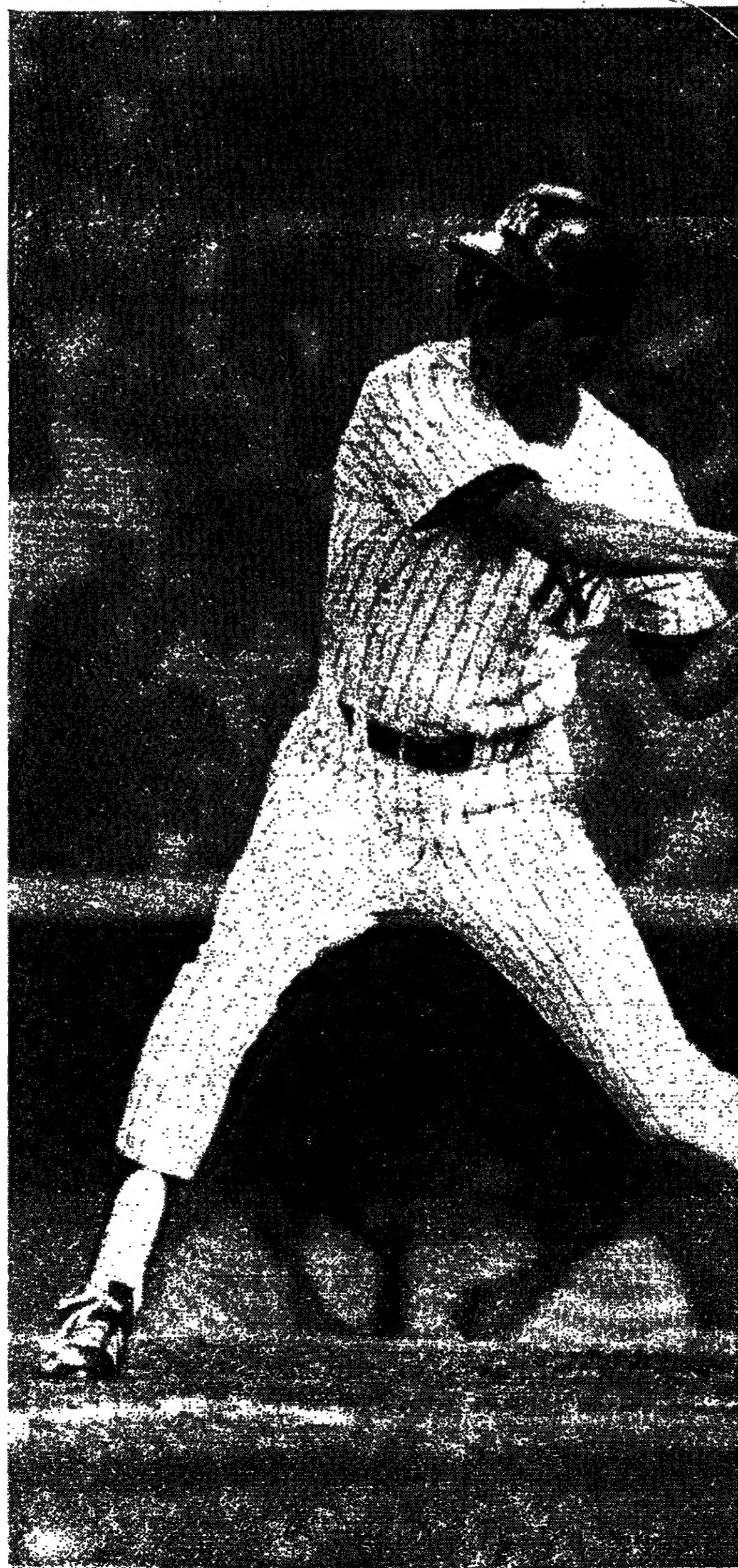
## 14% rate increase

Hillingdon Council, in London, last night announced a 14 per cent increase in the domestic rate to 90.2p in the pound. The new general rate will be 108.7p.

## Comedian fit again

Mr Frankie Howerd, the comedian, left the Fitzroy Muffield Hospital, London, yesterday. He had broken his pelvis in a fall.

## SUCCESS IN AMERICA IS A DIFFERENT BALL GAME.



For the last sixteen years, Hanson Trust has pursued one simple philosophy: for a company to succeed, especially a British company abroad, it needs excellent management. Our commitment to first class management is relentless, and nowhere has this paid off more for Hanson Trust than in our pursuit of success in the USA.

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The success of Seacoast encouraged Hanson Trust to cast around for other areas of investment in the USA.

In 1975, we acquired Carisbrook Industries Inc., a year later Hygrade Food Products Corporation and, in 1977, the national food service company, Interstate United Corporation.

Hygrade, with its \$600 million a year sales, is best known to Americans for the Ball Park frankfurter which is rated as the second largest selling brand of frankfurter in the States and has achieved a faster sales growth than any competing brand. Interstate, one of America's foremost food service companies, now provides over three million meals a day coast to coast.

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The companies continue to be run by Americans for the American market, and it works for Hanson Trust. US sales are in excess of \$1 billion a year and the contribution to corporate profits was over £16 million in 1979.

Success "on the road" in the USA, while being a different ball game, is only half the story. Hanson Trust also has a continuing story of success at home. For the full picture, please send for our Annual Report to Hanson Trust, FREEPOST, London SW3 1BR (no stamp required) or phone (01) 589 7070.

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## HOME NEWS

## Security checks made on Labour movement activities, group states

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

Security and intelligence services spend considerable time and resources checking on the activities of the Labour movement, a Labour Party study group alleged yesterday.

In a pamphlet, *Has Big Brother got a file on you?*, which is being sent to all constituency parties and to trade unions, members are being asked to set up subcommittees to collect evidence of surveillance by the Security Service (SS) and the Special Branch.

It is claimed to be the first time when the whole party and union movement is being asked to help in the formulation of party policy.

The reports from the constituencies will go to the special group under the chairmanship of Miss Jo Richardson, MP for Barking and a member of the national executive committee, which will draw up a report to be submitted to the party conference next year, recommending changes in the law to make the security services more accountable to Parliament and to force the disclosure of more information from official sources about their activities.

The pamphlet states that the security and intelligence services regard internal "subversives" as being just as much of a threat, and an equally legitimate target, as foreign spies or invaders. Yet there was no crime of "subversion" on the Statute Book.

In 1953 a subversive was officially defined by Lord Denning as a person who "would contemplate the overthrow of government by unlawful means".

That, says the pamphlet, is a fairly clear definition. But present and previous Home Secretaries had adopted a different definition. Subversive acts, to them, were "activities which threaten the safety or well-being of the state and are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means".

"This definition", the group states, "is so unclear that it can give continued licence for spying, surveillance and record-keeping by the state over legitimate political activities."

Dealing with the forms of surveillance to be reported on, the more specialist methods include telephone tapping, the opening of mail and the placing of eavesdropping equipment in offices and homes.

By far the most extensive surveillance is the semi-class

desine photographing of speakers and participants at political meetings, marches and demonstrations", the pamphlet alleges.

"In addition", it is claimed, "both the Special Branch and MIS recruit informers and, on occasions, plant infiltrators."

Information obtained by surveillance may be used generally to report on, and if need be to disrupt or otherwise control, the activities of Labour, leftists and trade union activities, the group states.

Miss Richardson said at a press conference called to launch the pamphlet that it was extremely difficult for MPs to get information about the security services, their expenditure, manpower, structure and efficiency. She gave out copies of questions which she had not been allowed to table in the House of Commons.

"These show quite clearly the powers of civil servants in the Table Office of the House of Commons to block MPs", she said, although she added that they were doing their duty by acting on past precedents.

Questions ruled inadmissible were to various ministers, asking how many personnel are employed in the Defence Intelligence Staff; where can estimates of public expenditure on the Defence Intelligence staff, DIS and DII, be located; what new reporting procedures for the Secret Services have been introduced in the past six months; what steps is the Prime Minister taking to restore full political control over the Secret Services; and is an internal inquiry now taking place into the Blunt case.

Mr Duncan Campbell, the journalist who was a defendant in the ABC trial, and who reported on the extent of telephone tapping in recent articles in the *New Statesman*, is a member of the group. He said that the specific prohibition on the tapping of MPs' telephones which Sir Harold Wilson introduced had been so weakened that it was now not very effective. Political aides employed by members of the last Labour government were under surveillance at one time or another.

Many members of the party involved in trade union disputes of a perfectly legitimate character had their telephones tapped.

Mr Campbell claimed that from his inquiries he judged that 10 or so MPs had been under surveillance; that number excluded the many occasions when MPs might have been in touch with other people who were being tapped.

## British Council fears huge job loss after cuts

By John O'Leary

Education Supplement

Ministers have ordered a further cut of £3.9m in the budget of the British Council after an inter-departmental review of the council's work. The savings, to be made over three years, will be announced in a White Paper.

The council had estimated that cuts of 15 per cent in its budget for 1980-81 would cost more than 500 jobs in Britain and abroad. With the total reduction over four years totalling 20 per cent, it fears that half the council staff in the United Kingdom and a third of those overseas may be made redundant.

More cuts may result from a review of the work of the Overseas Development Administration, which provides more than half the council's funds. No indication has been given of the ODA's contribution beyond 1981.

The board of the British Council, which met yesterday, is to ask the Government to reconsider the latest cuts. It says going beyond the past 11.5 per cent cut would irreparably damage its vital overseas interests.

An additional concern to the Council is that the £3.9m reduction has been set at 1979 prices and will represent considerably more in real terms because of its spread over three years.

A spokesman for the council said that the latest cuts would probably mean a complete withdrawal from 12 countries and the closure of offices in some larger countries where more than one exists. Up to 25 more countries might be affected by staff withdrawals.

## Single system of exams for 16-plus children

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

The Government has decided to move towards a more unified system of examining for pupils at the age of 16, but O level standards will be retained. However, it is unlikely that there will be any changes for several years, certainly not before 1985.

The Government said yesterday that it had completed its consultations with the interested parties on the future of the Certificate of Secondary Education and O level examinations, and would give the details of its decision on Tuesday.

A single system of grading will be introduced for examinations at 16 plus, so that, for example, there will no longer be confusion over how to relate, say, a grade E at O level to a comparable CSE grade.

The only direct comparison made now is that a grade C is equivalent to a grade C at O level, and a grade C at O level is equivalent to a grade C at CSE.

Teachers give priority to action on oversize classes

By Our Education Correspondent

A motion reaffirming the National Union of Teachers' commitment to take industrial action on "oversize" classes from next September has been voted top priority for discussion at the annual conference in April.

One third of primary pupils, amounting to nearly 1,500,000

## Coroners concerned over selection procedures

## Home Office may seek change in the law on inquest juries

By Marcel Berlins

Legal Correspondent

The Home Office is considering proposing changes to the law on inquest juries after the anomalies and shortcomings that were revealed by the cases of Blair Peach and James Kelly.

Inquests into the deaths of the two men are to be held in the spring, in both cases with a jury. The way those juries are to be picked is causing concern to coroners and the Home Office, who are anxious that in those well publicised cases there should be no possibility of the juries being criticised as biased.

However, there are virtually no legal provisions governing their selection. Unlike juries in criminal trials, which are chosen according to a procedure designed to achieve randomness, coroners' juries are subject only to a law of 1887 which says that they must be "good and lawful men" (since extended to women).

Nothing is laid down about how they should be picked, or about allowing jurors to be challenged. Apart from a law saying that no one should serve

on a coroners' jury more than three times a year, there is only a Home Office circular urging that more women should be chosen and suggesting that jurors should not all come from one narrow area.

In practice it is up to the officer of the particular coroners' court to pick the jury in whatever way he wishes. Up to a few years ago, it was not uncommon for a coroners' officer to have a list of more or less "regular" jurors on whom he could rely.

It was even known for trials to be made in public houses to get enough jurors, or for the officer's relatives, neighbours or friends to be called on.

It is fair to say that nowadays most coroners' officers use the electoral register to try to achieve a genuine random selection. Unfortunately, in the context of the Peach and Kelly cases, many coroners' officers are former policemen or connected with the police, and according to some critics, might not be considered the most appropriate people to pick jurors required to deal with cases in which the conduct of the police is at issue.

The fact that there is no legal provision for challenging coroners' juries adds to that difficulty.

About 5 per cent of inquests take place with a jury. The main circumstances are: where the death was by murder or manslaughter; where it occurred in a prison or in police custody; where there are specific statutes requiring a jury (for example, deaths in rail and air accidents and industrial poisoning); and where the death "occurred in circumstances the continuance of which is prejudicial to the health or safety of the public."

That last criterion was applied by the Court of Appeal in deciding to order a jury in the Blair Peach case. Coroners are worried that other deaths not previously considered to require a jury might now come under the wide interpretation given by Lord Denning.

Many coroners believe that it is time for the law to be changed so that their juries come broadly into line with ordinary juries, and are picked, paid and challenged in the same way.

## Greek tanker beaten by Shetland port ban

From Our Correspondent

Lerwick

The Shetland Islands council yesterday won its battle to prevent the Greek tanker, *Alkhalis*, from entering the Sullom Voe oil terminal.

The council announced that the vessel's charterers, Murphy Eastern Oil Corporation of America, had agreed to cancel the vessel will not try to enter the tanker's nomination, and the terminal.

On February 15th the *Mihalis* was seen and photographed by council marine staff at the head of a mile-long oil slick off

Shetland. Although the vessel's master denied causing pollution, the council's sports staff believed they had sufficient evidence to justify the oil industry carrying out promises made last year that it would refuse to load any vessel found causing pollution.

Although oil industry representatives at Sullom Voe recommended cancelling the nomination, the charterers refused to do so and the tanker's owners, Celestial Maritime Corporation of New York, are understood to have threatened legal action if the nomination was cancelled.

## British dairy farmers told they are not best

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

The common view that British dairy farming is the most efficient in Europe was challenged yesterday at a meeting of the Common Select Committee on Agriculture.

Professor John Bowman, director of the Centre for Agricultural Strategy at Reading University, said that a combination of high yields and extensive use of forage did not make farming here the best.

"We must not make the assumption that we necessarily have the best part of the Community for producing milk," he said. "We are by no means the most efficient. The United Kingdom dairy industry is in the top half of the league table in Europe."

He told the committee in written evidence that "on average dairy farms in the Netherlands and Belgium achieve higher productivity than do United Kingdom farms."

However, they compare favourably with the Danish and achieve much higher productivity levels than French, German and Italian farms.

The nine members of the committee spent the morning grappling with the EEC dairy surplus after visiting dairy farms in Berkshire. Mr Douglas Hogg, Conservative MP for Grantham, wondered whether the surplus could be cut by reducing the use of expensive, imported protein feed on dairy farms. That might lower yields without reducing farmers' profits.

"We were rather impressed by the profit that Irish farmers get from their production," Mr Hogg said. British milk yields per cow are more than half as great as those in the Irish Republic.

Committee members debated whether a cut in EEC milk prices would reduce yields. Professor Victor Byness, from Exeter University, said a cut might not affect the smallest farms, whose owners often worked in factories while their wives looked after the farms.

Professor Bowman suggested that "the effect of a squeeze on these smaller farms would probably be to buy a few more cows."

## Assay office sit-in after 'panic' dismissal of staff

From Arthur Osman

Birmingham

The 36 "Guardians of the Standard of Wrought Flat in Birmingham" those who run the city's assay office, were accused yesterday of "panic and hysteria" in proposing to dismiss 60 of their staff. The office was established as a corporation by Act of Parliament in 1772.

It was said that there had been a reduction of 40 per cent in goods coming in for hallmarking since gold and silver prices rose steeply last month.

A nucleus of 100 of the 220 craftsmen and craftswomen, of whom six are over the age of 70, began a continuous night and day sit-in at their machines, which hallmark gold and silver with the office's anchor mark.

The National Union of Gold, Silver and Allied Trades, to which they belong, provided them with refreshment and reading matter to support their protest.

Mr Hilary Eccles-Williams, chairman of the guardians, said there had to be a reduction of jobs. It was no fault of the office that international crises had forced up the price of gold. If the dispute continued, it could lead to manufacturers sending their goods to other offices for hallmarking. "That could mean the end of the Birmingham assay office."

Mr Bryn Waters, district secretary of the union, said: "We believe that the 60 proposed redundancies are a panic measure. It is bound up with a lot of hysteria by the guardians. There has been no similar reaction in other assay offices in London and Sheffield."

## Henry VIII ship salvage delayed

Work on raising the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's warship from the seabed off Portsmouth has been postponed from next year until 1982. The ship capsized in a battle with the French in 1545.

Archaeologists say they need another summer to remove the artifacts in the hull.

## Taxi driver stabbed

Mr Paul Carroll, a taxi driver, of Basford, Nottingham was stabbed in the back at Nottingham with serious injuries yesterday after a passenger who refused to pay his fare stabbed him in the back. Police were seeking a man in his middle twenties.

## Kidnap charge remand

Colin MacIvor, a Dublin managing director accused of kidnapping the wife of Sir Arthur Sugden, chief executive of the Co-operative Wholesale Society was further remanded in custody for a week by Stockport magistrates yesterday.

## WEST EUROPE



Led by stilt-walkers and a Tricolour-draped animal, French sheep farmers protest in Paris.

## Sheep men bleat angrily in Paris

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Feb 14

Kiki, a French sheep, draped in the Tricolour, led the demonstration of 1,000 sheep farmers from all parts of the country through the streets of Paris this morning. A large animal from the Ile de France, Kiki was escorted by farmers from the Landes on their traditional scalls.

Like sheep and rang small bells, the demonstrators bleated as the picturesque cortege, two to three miles long, wound its way from the Place de la Bastille to the Place de la Concorde.

Parisians, who watched with curiosity and amusement could be in no doubt as to who the enemy was. The farmers' banners and placards read: "Our wish is the British", "British go home", and "British economic policy is the New Zealand".

As the cortege to the hall, where M. Pierre Michel, the Minister for Agriculture, was expected, one large streamer proclaimed: "French sheep farmers want to live", and another read, "Let us save our sheepfolds, pinch out M. Maignan".

The National Federation of

Sheep Farmers, which organized the demonstration, asked the Minister to defend firmly his position in Brussels, and to maintain import restrictions on British sheepmeat so long as a new market organization for sheepmeat has not been set up by the European Community.

Sheep farming, according to the federation, is the main source of livelihood of 200,000 people in France, and an essential part of the rural economy of some poorer regions.

M. Charles Monge, the president of the federation, declared flatly: "If our frontiers are opened brutally, all French sheep farmers will disappear. They did not want subsidies: 'We want no premiums, no charity. We want to live from our own work.'"

His exhortations to the Minister are superfluous. He has no intention of yielding to British threats or the strictures of the European Court of Justice.

He said today: "We shall defend sheep farmers as we produce the wool. We are in favour of a common agricultural policy, not of a free trade area. If the British want a free trade area there will be no solution to the problem, and it will become political."

M. Maignan insisted that agricultural prices would have

to increase this year by 7 to 8 per cent if the income of French farmers were to be maintained.

"How can one be satisfied with the increases by the EEC Commission (2.4 per cent on average) where production costs in agriculture are going to rise by 10 to 11 per cent?" he asked.

The French Government's position is that it will not move on Britain's EEC budget problem without getting British concessions on agricultural prices and of British sheep meat exports.

M. Jean-Baptiste Doumenge, a member of the Communist Party for half a century, was even tougher on the radio yesterday. M. Doumenge is founder and president of *Le Berger*, the largest food export-import company in France, specializing in trade with the Soviet block.

Britain was responsible for the malfunctioning of the common agricultural policy, he said. At the same time as one limited EEC butter production, one allowed the British to import 200,000 tons of New Zealand butter, when all that was required was a French veto in Brussels to stop them.

"Either France should leave the EEC, or Britain should be booted out of it," he said.

## Nine offered ingenious compromise budget

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, Feb 14

The EEC Commission today presented the European Parliament a revised draft for the 1980 budget, to replace the original proposals by the Council of Ministers rejected by the Parliament in December.

The reworked draft is an ingenious attempt to strike a compromise between the penny-pinching attitudes of EEC member states and the demands of the Euro-MPs.

The new budget amounts to about £10,310m, of which £9,250m would actually be spent in the calendar year, 1980. (The rest would be carried forward into the next year.)

The comparable figures (at current exchange rates) in the draft budget rejected last December by the Parliament were £10,490m and £9,710m.

The reduction in the overall size of the proposed budget is explained mainly by a cut of 10 per cent in farm price support, the main item in the budget.

As Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Commissioner for the Budget explained today to the Parliament, this has enabled the Commission to add £220m to so to non-farm spending, mainly on the development of the EEC's poorer regions and industrial retraining schemes.

Looked at more closely, the new draft budget does little to alter the overall imbalance the Community's spending priorities. Farm spending, for example, would still account for more than 70 per cent of total expenditure in calendar 1980.

None the less, the curb on agricultural spending, coupled with more money for other areas—even if less than demanded last December by the Parliament—would probably be enough to satisfy many Euro-MPs.

For the moment, however, the whole package is little more than an academic exercise, since the envisaged agricultural savings assume the member states will agree to the Commission's recently announced farm-price proposals and related measures for curbing over-production of milk and sugar.

The chorus of complaint from national farming lobbies suggests that there is very little chance of such agreement being reached, and certainly

not by the April 1 target date, in which case the Commission's arithmetic will need to be drastically reworked.

The next step is consideration of the budget proposal by EEC budget ministers. Countries like France, seem certain to insist that the results of the farm-price fixing, which could drag on well into the summer, should be included in the amended draft the Council will eventually pass to the Parliament for adoption.

That would put the Parliament in the position of either rejecting the budget again, or rubber stamping the decisions of EEC agricultural ministers—the very issue over which Euro-MPs made their show of defiance last December.

Alternatively, the Council of Ministers could allow the Parliament to adopt the budget in something like the form proposed by the Commission prior to the farm-price fixing. Member states could then request a supplementary budget later in the year to cover spending overruns in the agricultural sector.

Although the Parliament has the power to reject a supplementary budget, it seems doubtful whether the necessary majority could be found to do so.

To refuse to plunge the EEC into immediate financial crisis, whereas the Parliament made its gesture of defiance last December, knowing that the EEC's finances would not come under strain for at least six months.

An interesting footnote to the Commission's new proposal is the discovery that that part of budget revenue which comes from import duties and levies has proved much more buoyant than expected.

If approved, the proposal would still leave a margin of nearly £2,000m of additional expenditure before the EEC exhausted the proceeds from value-added tax, which, for Community purposes can be levied up to a maximum rate of 1 per cent.

This means that the reimbursement of Britain's £1,000m net budget contribution could be financed out of the Community's existing revenue resources if there was the political will to do so.

Leading article, page 17

## Restaurants in Italy go on strike

From Our Own Correspondent

Rome, Feb 14

Restaurants throughout Italy and many bars will remain closed tomorrow as a protest against the Government's introduction of a form of tax receipt to be completed by the owners as part of the campaign against tax evasion.

The new arrangements are due to come into effect on March 1 when the restaurants will shut again if the Government does not agree to modify its proposals.

A meeting between representatives of the restaurant owners and Signor Francesco Cossiga, which Euro-MPs made their show of defiance last December, failed to change the situation and the final decision to shut out customers was announced today.

The restauranters maintain that the Government is placing too much administrative work on restaurant staffs, especially for the small family businesses, and showing an excessively severe attitude by the heavy punishments on transgressors.

They have asked for simplification of the receipt forms, time to allow the new system to be run in and a reasonable period of grace before heavy fines are inflicted.

They are also complaining that the authorities fail to give them adequate protection against the wave of violence which has struck restaurants, especially in Milan and Rome.

## Madrid Metro crash injures more than 80

Madrid, Feb 14—More than 80 people were injured, none seriously, when two Madrid underground trains collided during the morning rush hour today.

A spokesman for the Civil Governor's office said the first train was running slowly because of a broken rail in a bend known to Metro workers as "the death curve". A second train drove into it from the back after its brakes failed.

The once privately-owned Madrid Metro was put under Government control nearly two years ago after more than 200 people were injured in two accidents in four days.—Reuter.

## Son asks prayers for murderers

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Feb 14

At the state funeral of Signor Vittorio Bachelet today his son called for prayers for his father's murderers. Signor Bachelet, vice-chairman of the Higher Judicial Council was shot on Tuesday on the steps of the faculty where he taught at Rome University.

His son, Giovanni, aged 24, stood up in the fashionable Basilica Church of St Robert Bellarmine, the presence of President Pertini, the Prime Minister and thousands of mourners to give a remarkable reminder of the moral sense which can still emerge from this battered country.

He said: "We pray for Sandro Pertini, for Cossiga and

his Government, for the judges, for the police, for the carabinieri, for the prison staff. We pray for all those who, in Parliament, in the institutions and in the highways, defend democracy. We pray also for those who pray down the course of justice because we must always have words of pardon ready and because life must triumph over death."

There was an extraordinary moment of silence in the crowded church. Suddenly everyone was applauding.

The Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Poletti, the Pope's Vicar for Rome, and two brothers of Signor Bachelet are Jesuit priests.

Apart from his work for the Higher Judicial Council and as a law lecturer, Signor Bachelet was active in Catholic life. He had known for many months, as the result of enquiries into the kidnapping and death of his friend Signor Aldo Moro, that he too was on the assassination list of the "Red Brigades", terrorist movement.

He had refused an escort. Signor Moro's bodyguard of five was annihilated when he was kidnapped.

To the killers, Cardinal Poletti said: "Each blow of yours is bringing our new and increasingly generous ideas of solidarity, of civil society, of resistance to violence, above all in young people."

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**SATURDAY, 16th FEB., 11 a.m./VIEW 10 a.m.**  
Auction Remaining Five Bales Marks: PC 6/10 Piece by Piece  
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# IMPERIAL

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## WEST EUROPE

# Soviet official caught spying by French

From Charles Margrove  
Paris, Feb 14

Mr Gennadiy Travkov a Soviet consular official in Marseilles was caught on Saturday by officials of the DST, the French counter-espionage agency, as he was taking delivery of defence secrets concerning the Mirage 2000 combat aircraft.

It is scheduled to replace the Mirage 3 fighter of the French Air Force by 1984. Four prototypes of the aircraft are now undergoing trials at Istres, near Marseilles.

Mr Travkov's job at the consulate general was to study scientific questions related to the port and airport of Marseilles. He had been in his present post for three years. It was also disclosed by official sources today that he had attempted to infiltrate Sniass, the aircraft construction firm producing the Mirage 2000.

The Soviet official left Marseilles for Moscow on Sunday.

Several other people are reported to have been detained by the police in Marseilles in connection with the Travkov affair.

This espionage affair has broken out amid signs of a distinct cooling of relations between France and Russia caused by the Soviet interven-

tion in Afghanistan and the banishment of Dr Andrei Sakharov.

Although the French Government remains opposed to economic sanctions, on the ground that they are both ineffective and counter-productive, it has made it clear repeatedly in the past couple of weeks that there can be no restoration of a positive climate of détente, and of the cooperation that goes with it, so long as Moscow does not withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

M Jean Francois-Poncelet, the French Foreign Minister, who for an official visit to Helsinki said last night at the dinner given in his honour by his Finnish colleague that "confidence must be restored to those who have undermined it. It is indispensable for détente. It is necessary in order that the Madrid meeting to take stock of the application of the Helsinki agreement" can be productive.

Arrest in Spain: Mr Oleg Suranov, Madrid director of the Soviet airline Aeroflot, was arrested today for alleged spying and was expected to be deported tonight. He would be the fifth Russian expelled from Spain for alleged spying since diplomatic links were restored in 1977.—Reuter.

## Strikers secure release of Greenpeace boat

By David Nicholson-Lord

A protest strike by 3,000 local trade unionists led to the release from Cherbourg yesterday of a boat belonging to Greenpeace, the international ecology group.

It had been impounded by the authorities and the captain was arrested.

The demonstration by trade unionists followed angry scenes in the harbour early yesterday morning as anti-nuclear protesters joined with the crew of the Rainbow Warrior in unsuccessful attempts to stop the unloading of a cargo of spent Japanese nuclear fuel.

It was destined for the French reprocessing plant at La Hague, the fuel being carried in the British Nuclear Fuels vessel Pacific Swan.

The Rainbow Warrior, defying an order banning it from French territorial waters, followed the Pacific Swan into the harbour and was immediately impounded. Police turned water cannon on a group of 30 demonstrators after six protesters were arrested as they tried to manoeuvre small inflatable boats between the fuel vessel and the quay.

During the unloading, according to Greenpeace, one of the steel casks carrying the fuel was dropped while the police said they found an incendiary device that all but one of the charges faced by the Rainbow Warrior's captain—that of violating the marine penal code—had been dropped.

## Police widow kills herself

Nice, Feb 14.—The wife of a French policeman who was accidentally killed by other policemen on Tuesday, shot herself on Wednesday, aged 45, and then shot herself with her husband's service pistol early today, police said.

She was despondent after being told that her husband, M Philippe Maziz, aged 25, was shot in the head by mistake by four members of the anti-gang

squad, who, like M Maziz, were closing in on the villa where M Guy Pitoun, a Riviera businessman, had been held by kidnappers.

Mrs Maziz committed suicide after killing their only child not long before the funeral of her husband, investigators said.

Police unions have blamed the "flagrant lack of coordination between different branches of the force" when several are working on a case.—UPI.

## OVERSEAS

# Iran minister says inquiry into Shah being set up

Rome, Feb 14.—A commission of inquiry into the regime of the Shah must be formed before American hostages can be released in Tehran, Mr Sadeq Oudabadi, the Iranian Foreign Minister, said today.

Talks leading to the release of the 50 American hostages being held at the United States Embassy in Tehran could be completed within the next two days, but their actual release would almost certainly take more time, he said.

Earlier in the day, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr told Iranian television from Iran that the hostages could be released in 48 hours if President Carter accepted the latest Iranian proposals and if there were no complications.

Mr Oudabadi said later: "What Mr Bani-Sadr meant is that the process which we have discussed with Dr Waldheim (the United Nations Secretary-General) during his stay here—which was supposed to be carried out immediately but was delayed until recent days—is apparently becoming a reality."

Mr Bani-Sadr "meant that if everything could have been done in 48 hours, then the whole thing would be over." "Victims of plot": Hojatoleslam Khomeini, the spiritual leader of the Muslim students occupying the American Embassy, was quoted as saying that the students were the victims of a plot to undermine the embassy occupation.—UPI and Reuter.

Waldheim plan: Dr Waldheim (austrian) is planning to visit Tehran in a bid to secure the release of the hostages, his spokesman said in New York. Dr Waldheim hoped to announce soon the composition of an international commission to investigate the Shah's regime.

## Mr Carter sees hope of hostages' release

From David Cross  
Washington, Feb 14

President Carter has taken a cautious step towards ending the 102-day seizure of the American Embassy and its staff in Tehran by endorsing the idea of an inquiry into the Shah and that this refusal had prolonged the incarceration of the hostages in Tehran.

The President's reaction to Mr Kennedy's remarks was foreboding earlier yesterday when he said that the Shah's refusal to accept the idea of an inquiry into the Shah and that this refusal had prolonged the incarceration of the hostages in Tehran.

President Carter's decision to take Mr Kennedy's remarks as a sign of progress was a surprise, Mr Jody Powell, who used such adjectives as "irresponsible", "obnoxious" and "cynical" to describe the senator's comments.

Even the normally placid Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, joined the chorus of condemnation, albeit with a more statesmanlike turn of phrase.

Predictably, Senator Kennedy brushed aside the criticism, saying that Mr Carter was confused. "He was blaming the President not the United States for mistakes in foreign policy," he said. Mr Kennedy was campaigning in his home state of Massachusetts.

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# Arrests fuel charges of official bias against Mr Mugabe

From Nicholas Ashford  
Salisbury, Feb 14

The latest arrests in Southern Rhodesia of Zanu (PF) candidates and party officials on charges of aiding and failing to report the presence of guerrillas, has provoked new protests over "bias" from party officials and sympathizers.

The arrests—which Mr Robert Mugabe, the party's leader, claims, now numbered about 2,500—will be added to a catalogue of complaints being drawn up by Zanu (PF) that purports to show that Lord Soames, the Governor, is showing a distinct bias against the party during the run-up to the election.

The party's criticism of Lord Soames's actions in recent weeks stems from the belief that he (supported by the British Government) is determined to ensure that Zanu (PF) does not form the first government of an independent Zimbabwe.

The party is supremely confident of winning the largest number of black seats in the parliament, and regards any move by Lord Soames to be designed to reduce a Zanu (PF) majority and to facilitate the formation of an anti-Zanu (PF) coalition between the more moderate black parties.

The British administration naturally denies that it is prejudiced one way or another. Officials argue that if Lord Soames seems to be acting mainly against the party and its military wing, Zanu (PF) is because they are responsible for most political intimidation and violations of the ceasefire.

The impression among independent observers in Salisbury is that Lord Soames's claim to be acting in a neutral way is beginning to wear thin. In particular, it is felt that his over-reliance on the existing Rhodesian administration, parti-

cularly for information about what is happening around the country, is mainly responsible for his apparent one-sidedness.

Zanu (PF) claims that Lord Soames showed bias from the start when Mr Mugabe's return to the country was delayed because other parties had already planned election rallies in Salisbury. Since then, one of the party's main complaints has been that it is blamed for most acts of intimidation, yet Zanu (PF) leaders have been the main targets for assassination attempts.

In particular the party resents the fact that Lord Soames seems to close his eyes to alleged misdeeds by the Security Force Auxiliaries who, the Governor insists, are not a political force but an integral part of the security forces under his authority.

Zanu (PF) also argues that the extensive use Lord Soames has made of the Security Forces to support the police in maintaining law and order has had an intimidatory effect on party supporters. The party says that Zanu (PF) guerrillas have never been called from their assembly areas to help maintain law and order although they are, under the Lancaster House agreement, also a force under the Governor's authority.

Then there have been the arrests of party workers, often for no more serious an offence than shouting the party's rallying cry.

There are other, smaller, but more less aggravating, matters that have convinced the party that the dice are loaded against them.

For instance, there is still no telephone in the party's headquarters although one was requested more than a month ago. About 300 Zanu (PF) members wanted to import from Mozambique to transport candidates as the party's Rhodesian customs posts at Umtali.

## US actions 'threaten' Gulf states

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Feb 14

The Russians today denounced President Carter's dispatch of Marines to the Arabian Sea as another step in the escalation of tension in the area.

They also accused America of using Pakistan as a centre for their imperialist plans and turning a blind eye to the country's work on a nuclear bomb.

Pravda said with the dispatch of Marines the "Carter doctrine" had now been put into effect. This aimed to prevent social changes unfavourable to the United States in the region in order to protect American oil supplies.

Pentagon officials were looking for launching pads for future intervention, it claimed. The targets might include not only Iran but other Gulf states.

Pravda said, apart from Egypt and Oman, the Arab world did not want to allow any American military bases "in spite of the lavish promises of aid and intimidation with the mythical Soviet threat."

UN Censure by 27 votes for, eight against and six abstentions, the United Nations Human Rights Commission today approved a resolution demanding immediate withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan (Alan McGregor reports from Geneva).

The resolution, which called on United Nations member states not to provide any assistance "to the present imposed regime".

Continued from page 1 rare and precious in the Bronze Age, a symbol of power. On his left wrist there was a bracelet with a finely carved agate seal stone.

In a corner of this chamber there was the skeleton of a woman of about 28. Her skull suggested to the anthropologist that she was beautiful and suffered from a disease known as sickle-cell anaemia. She is assumed to be a priestess.

The remains of a fourth skeleton, its lower part protected by the fire, were found in the corridor outside the sacrificial chamber. He is believed to have held in his hands the vessel containing the sacrificial blood.

The fragment of the vessel was retrieved to form a beautiful large black vase with white and red decorations and the image of a bull painted in the space opposite to the spout.

Dr Sakellariadis said the central chamber of the temple had revealed a large number of vessels, vases and jars lined up on the floor in an orderly fashion, leaving a small passage to a step formed by the mountain rock protruding into the room.

On this shelf, the archaeologist found a pair of human-size clay feet. He assumes that they were fitted into a xoanon, a wooden statue of a god or goddess. Dr Sakellariadis said several pieces of burnt wood found near by might have belonged to the xoanon.

The eastern chamber, according to Dr Sakellariadis, was for bloodless offerings. There was an altar with three steps in the centre of the chamber and baskets, which must have contained fruits and grain, had been left on the steps.

The rectangular temple at Arkhanes is a unique discovery for Crete. Places of worship in Minoan Crete were either incorporated in palaces, or built on mountain peaks—not on mountain slopes.



A farmer at a polling station in Southern Rhodesia in the election for white seats that started yesterday.

There is no doubt that Lord Soames is genuinely concerned about the level of political intimidation in the countryside. But he is equally conscious that the election must be seen to be free and fair if it is to win international acceptance.

It would seem, therefore, that he is to some extent continuing the brinkmanship tactics that Lord Carrington used at the Lancaster House conference.

While some of these allegations are undoubtedly exaggerated, and sometimes based on incorrect evidence, there would seem to be some justification for the complaints about unfair treatment.

## Mrs Thatcher advises boycott of Olympics

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

British athletes are to be advised by the Government not to take part in the Moscow Olympic Games, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, told the Commons yesterday.

Her announcement caught many at Westminster by surprise for she appeared to have pre-empted the EEC Foreign Ministers' meeting in Rome next week when a common line will be sought towards Russian intervention in Afghanistan.

However, the surprise was limited to the timing, since the Prime Minister's declaration is a logical development of a cabinet thinking and she no doubt thought it right to make the announcement in view of the decision by the International Olympic Committee to reject requests for a boycott.

The only challenge came from Mr James Kilfedder, leader of the Ulster Progressive Unionist Party, who asked why the Government was attempting to penalize British athletes who had been training for years to compete in Moscow.

The Government, he added, could, if it deemed it necessary to take political action, withdraw the British Ambassador from Moscow.

To shouts of opposition from the Labour benches, Mrs Thatcher replied: "These Moscow Olympics, like their predecessors in 1936, will be used substantially for propaganda purposes."

"What we are saying is that athletes are just like any other kind of citizens. They have the same rights and responsibilities towards freedom and its maintenance as every citizen in the United Kingdom."

Killian popularity: In the past few days Lord Killian, president of the International Olympic Committee, has become popular with the Soviet press. The Irish peer is being praised for having given a "firing rebuff" to attempts to harm the Olympic movement and for making a "logical" decision (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

Pravda said today the decision to go ahead with the Games in Moscow was in accordance with the provisions of the Olympic charter, the ideas of the Olympic movement, peace and friendship. It was supported by many athletes, coaches and sporting officials.

The party newspaper emphasized that relations between American and Soviet athletes at Lake Placid were good and many American competitors were angry at Washington's call for the transfer or postponement of the summer games in Moscow.

Tass noted that "in spite of the anti-Soviet hysteria unleashed in the American press, the audience gave a warm welcome in the stadium to the Soviet delegation."

Trudeau opposition: Mr Pierre Trudeau, tipped to become Prime Minister of Canada again next week, today opposed a boycott of the Moscow Olympics. Games unless it had massive international support.

Today there seems to have been an injection of Mrs Gandhi's views and reversion to her suspicions about the American stance before the visit of President Carter's special envoy, Mr Clark Clifford, at the end of last month.

Indian diplomacy appears to have retreated under the impact of the unyielding Mr Gromyko. At one point the Indian spokesman frankly admitted: "We have to wait and see what the great powers do."

Leading article, page 17

# Delhi won over to Gromyko view

From Richard Wigg  
Delhi, Feb 14

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, had a final 40-minute meeting with Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, before flying back to Moscow today. Some clear signs emerged afterwards that he had succeeded in bringing the Indian position closer once again to Soviet views on Afghanistan.

The Indian Government spokesman, meeting reporters after the Prime Minister's talk, for which Mr Gromyko's scheduled departure had been delayed, chose to underline the latest reported American counter-moves in the Indian Ocean region and the Gulf.

He spoke of "a massive United States naval build-up in the Indian Ocean region", including, he believed, tactical nuclear weapons, something which "certainly added to the crisis in the region".

The spokesman also referred to United States negotiations for bases in Kenya, Somalia, and Oman and said that the Indian Government had fairly hard intelligence reports about an increase in military equipment at the United States base on Diego Garcia in the Southern Indian Ocean.

But when asked about recent reports of an additional build-up of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, the spokesman claimed that Delhi had no information of any increasing Soviet military presence there since mid-January.

On Afghanistan the spokesman adopted language at one important point identical with the remarks which Gromyko made in an after-dinner speech, the second of his visit, last night, when he counselled Pakistan not to give armed assistance to the Muslim insurgents for raids across the Afghanistan frontier but to make sure its boundaries with the country were those of "peace, friendship and cooperation".

The three-day visit ended with India having failed to obtain any Soviet commitment for a withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan, prompt or otherwise.

Evidently to satisfy the Russians there was a meagre joint statement, which did not mention any concrete measures envisaged to reduce tensions in the region, which the Indian delegation had proclaimed as its objective after the beginning of the talks on Tuesday.

The statement merely noted that the Indo-Soviet discussions had helped both sides to strengthen their mutual understanding.

In fact the Indian side changed its emphasis on all three days of the talks. On the first day there was a bold claim that Mr Gromyko was to get down to detailed measures including troop withdrawals. It was evident yesterday that Mr Narasimha Rao, the Indian External Affairs Minister, had failed to achieve any such thing.

Today there seems to have been an injection of Mrs Gandhi's views and reversion to her suspicions about the American stance before the visit of President Carter's special envoy, Mr Clark Clifford, at the end of last month.

Indian diplomacy appears to have retreated under the impact of the unyielding Mr Gromyko. At one point the Indian spokesman frankly admitted: "We have to wait and see what the great powers do."

Leading article, page 17

## Earthquake in India starts eclipse panic

Delhi, Feb 14.—A strong earthquake in India's mountainous north-west Ladakh territory today caused panic among people who fear that a disastrous earthquake may follow a total eclipse of the sun over the country on Saturday.

The Meteorological Department have said the epicentre of the earthquake was about 450 miles north of the capital and registered a magnitude of 6.5 on the Richter scale.

It struck in the north-west, but most concern is being felt in a north-east India, where seismologists believe a big earthquake will occur this year.

Saturday's total solar eclipse in a belt up to 80 miles wide is regarded as highly important by millions of Hindus who will bathe in rivers and sacred lakes throughout the country during the eclipse to ward off evil.—Reuter.

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## OVERSEAS

## Turkish troops seize Izmir factory after battle with workers

Ankara, Feb. 14.—Turkish troops using armoured cars stormed a state cotton-yarn factory in the western town of Izmir today and evicted about 1,000 protesting left-wing workers after a gun battle, eyewitnesses reported.

One policeman was wounded as police and hundreds of the 10,000 soldiers on the scene, supported by tanks and helicopters, rushed into the factory, scene of almost daily violence for the last few weeks.

Turkish towns with leftist workers and students in sympathy with the Izmir workers, the Cabinet of Mr Süleiman Demirel, after a routine meeting, called on the nation not to panic.

The troops carrying assault rifles stormed the factory after the workers ignored an ultimatum to come to work. Tanks stood by and troops surrounded the plant, armoured cars burst through the doors and the soldiers ran in.

After an exchange of fire—the workers were apparently armed with pistols—the workers surrendered and came out with their hands up, witnesses said. Some were taken to a sports stadium and detained, they added.

A general strike in Izmir, an Aegean resort city, continued tonight. Municipal workers were apparently striking in support of the cotton-yarn factory workers while other businesses stayed closed because of the violence.

The workers occupied the factory to protest against large-scale dismissals of left-leaning workers after the change from

a left-wing to a right-wing Government in Ankara last November.

The state radio broke its silence to say that the Cabinet had discussed "incidents of violence in Izmir, Istanbul, Tunceli and Kars".

Heavily armed Rendarmen clashed with leftist workers and students in the eastern town of Tunceli, according to the semi-official Anatolian news agency. One person died and three were wounded, two seriously, it said.

The agency quoted the Tunceli provincial governor as saying: "The town looks as though there's a war going on".

Further east, in Kars, near the Soviet border, leftist forces bombed several buses but no casualties were reported.

In Istanbul, residents said many shops stayed shut today after an unknown group threatened shopkeepers with violence if they did not close their doors to leftist demonstrators.

Police said tonight that 300 people had been detained. Opposition leader and former Prime Minister, accused the Government of carrying out "the worst repression the world has seen since the regime of Idi Amin in Uganda".

In an uncharacteristically strong statement, Mr Ecevit said he was more concerned about the political situation now than he had been before the last military coup in 1971.

He said Mr Demirel had "blown up all the possible bridges" between their two parties.—Reuters.

## Liberal reforms likely in the post-Tito era

Continued from page 1

sis is to be kept even more strongly on independence and on safeguarding Yugoslavia against outside threats and internally the reformist liberalizing course is to continue.

In fact the collective leadership of 32 men has been assuming increasing responsibility over the past few years as President Tito left more and more of the day-to-day business to the men he chose to secure the continuity of his life work.

Since he entered hospital three weeks ago the leadership took full charge of Yugoslavia's affairs. The responsibility is divided between the party and the state along regional lines.

Mr Lazar Kolarik, the Vice-President of the state Presidency, will become the titular head of state for the remainder of his one-year term which expires in May. The presiding member of the party Praesidium will take over the chairmanship until October when his term of office expires and another member of the Praesidium takes over.

The state Presidency together with the party Praesidium represent the intricate system of succession envisaged as safeguard against any one person climbing to the top. The system has already been functioning for nine years.

But the man who matters most is Dr Vladimir Bakarić, the urban 67-year-old lawyer from Croatia who has been close friend and confidante of President Tito for more than 40 years. He is the last survivor of what was once a tightly-knit innermost circle of young Communist revolutionaries with whom President Tito started in 1938.

He is not likely to make a claim for power but he is very much the man behind the scenes. His voice is bound to prevail in the future and in situations where the regionally represented leadership may

reach deadlocks as all decisions must be passed by agreement. During the three weeks of President Tito's illness, the leadership has shown a high degree of unity and has indicated the reformist liberalizing course in the post-Tito era.

On foreign policy Mr Milos Mitic, a Serb who is Yugoslavia's chief foreign policy strategist, has stated clearly that Yugoslavia will tolerate no pressure or interference and that it intends to pursue its independent, non-aligned course. Yugoslavia has taken a strong line on the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan.

The other message the leadership has conveyed in recent weeks is that liberalizing reforms will be resumed, perhaps even more forcefully than hitherto.

At a meeting last week the speakers, including many members of the highest party office, spoke in favour of Mr Edward Kardelj's ideas of "pluralism of interest". There seems to be no doubt that once the present critical period is over, the leadership intends to push ahead with liberalizing reforms within the party, which have been long overdue.

During a meeting yesterday of the 33 members of the Defence Council, it was said that general defence preparedness was satisfactory but that further measures must be taken.

The council was preparing contingency plans and the Army has been put in a state of increased vigilance. According to reports some reservists have been called up.

Strict security precautions have been taken while the nation awaits news of what now seems to be the last days of an era marked by President Tito's towering personality. The bulletin today leaves little doubt that President Tito's condition is critical and that the nation should be prepared for the worst.

## Algeria to give Seychelles aid in education

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Feb. 14

The Seychelles is developing relations with other socialist governments in the Indian Ocean region. Mr Jacques Houdou, Foreign Minister of the Indian Ocean island group, who has returned from visits to Libya and Algeria, announced that 12 Algerian advisers are to be sent to the islands to help with an education programme.

Guinea has agreed to send 10 advisers to the Seychelles for two years, also to assist with education, and East Germany has sent almost a ton of drugs.

The first equipment for oil test drilling in Seychelles waters has arrived. A consortium of American oil companies is to start drilling in an area of about 8,400 square miles.

## Leftists vacate embassy in San Salvador

San Salvador, Feb. 14.—Leftist militants vacated the Panamanian Embassy here today and freed their three hostages, including the Ambassador, Señor David Peres Ramos, police said.

Members of the Popular League on February 28 seized the embassy yesterday to back the demands of their comrades occupying the Spanish Embassy for the release of several detainees.

The militants also occupied the Panamanian Embassy last month, but left three days later when El Salvador's ruling junta accepted its demands for the release of seven detainees.

Leftist guerrillas and security forces today clashed in Zacatecoluca, 40 miles from San Salvador, but the guerrillas fled after a gun battle, leaving behind four dead.—Reuters.

## Mr Vance criticizes Israeli plan for Hebron

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem, Feb. 14

The Israeli Government has been strongly criticized by the United States Secretary of State, Mr Cyrus Vance, over its decision to approve the principle of Jewish settlement in the centre of Hebron, the second largest Arab town in the occupied West Bank.

It is understood that Mr Vance's protest was contained in a letter delivered yesterday to Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister. The wording of the document is being kept secret but it reflects the Administration's increasing anger at Israel's expansionist settlement policy in lands seized in 1967.

The Government's determination to pursue that policy was emphasized when the thirty-fifth settlement to be established in the West Bank was opened this afternoon.

Officially named Karnei Shomron (The Horns of Samaria), the settlement is one of a number that will be situated west of the Arab town of Nablus overlooking the coastal plain.

At today's ceremony, Mr Ariel Sharon, the minister responsible for settlements, claimed that if Israel did not settle in what he described as Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) it would be setting "its own death trap".

Israeli officials disclosed that land had been located for the establishment of two more settlements in the same area.

Speaking in Washington earlier this week, Mr Hoddie Carter, the State Department spokesman, described the implications of the decision taken by the Israeli Cabinet on Sunday as "serious and far reaching". He said that an attempt to settle Israeli citizens in Hebron would have "serious consequences" for negotiations on Palestinian autonomy.

Those talks are due to be resumed at ministerial level later this month amid signs that Israel's settlement policy is proving a big obstacle to progress. Jewish, Mr Mustafa Khalil, the Egyptian Prime Minister, sent a message to Mr Vance, demanding firm American action.

In addition to the Hebron decision, described by observers

## Moscow's Shostakovich memoir

From Michael Binoyan  
Moscow, Feb. 14

The Russians have published their version of the Shostakovich memoirs. It quotes the composer praising the artistic and spiritual freedom in the Soviet Union.

The book, though not yet on sale, comes three months after the memoirs published in the United States, which were bitterly denounced here as a forgery.

Tass said the book, *Shostakovich, His Life and Times*, had been painstakingly compiled over many years by Soviet musicologists and journalists, with the help of Shostakovich's family. It was a "strictly documented" collection of speeches, notes, letters and interviews spanning almost 50 years of the composer's life up to his death in 1975.

The newsagency clearly hoped to show that the book was not simply a hasty reply to the book edited by Mr Solomon Volkov, an emigrant now living in New York. The composer's son, Maxim, said the Volkov memoir, which depicts Shostakovich as an embittered man who resented the authorities' restrictions on his work, was a "compilation of rumours and anecdotes".

According to Tass, Shostakovich expressed strong support for the Soviet regime. "Soviet musicians highly value the spiritual freedom won for their creativity by the working people", the composer is quoted as saying.

## Tanker had no oil when it sank

Dakar, Feb. 14.—A Senegalese Government inquiry has concluded that the tanker Salem was not carrying its listed cargo of 193,132 tonnes of crude oil when it sank off the coast of Senegal last month.

The finding was announced by the Merchant Marine Authority, which has been investigating the sinking. The Salem went down on January 17 after being rocked by explosions in Liberia, where the ship was registered, officials are convinced that the oil had been unloaded at Durban.—Reuters.



Jubilant girls after finishing their basic training in the Israeli Army.

as a fundamental change from the previous Israeli policy of preventing Jews moving into large Arab centres, the Likud Government has allocated another \$600,000 for buying land in the West Bank.

The allocation was approved yesterday by 11 votes to seven by the Knesset finance committee, after a request by Mr Sharon. It was not made clear where the money will be used.

Government sources said today that Mr Begin would discuss the Vance letter with Cabinet colleagues before making an official reply. There was no indication on whether the Government will respond to right-wing pressure and discuss means of starting settlements in Hebron when it meets again at the weekend.

The political and press reaction in the United States to the Hebron decision has taken some Israeli ministers by surprise and there has been resentment here at a suggestion in Washington that American aid to Israel should be reduced for each new settlement established.

The suggestion was rejected here today by Mr James McIntyre, who is leading an American delegation to Israel and Egypt, who is advising on future aid to both countries.

After meeting Mr Begin, Mr McIntyre pledged that the United States would honour its commitments to Israel in spite of its displeasure over settlements.

During the meeting, Mr Begin rejected criticism of the settlement policy. PLO provocation, alleged Palestinian guerrillas in south Lebanon today and a left-wing leader gave warning of a new civil war unless the Government found a political solution to the country's divisions.

Beirut radio reported continuing fierce fighting this morning between Phalangist militiamen and supporters of Mr Suleiman Franjieh, the former President. Mr Edmond Rizk, the kidnapped Phalangist member of Parliament is safe and the place where he is being held is known, the Phalangist-operated radio Voice of Lebanon, reported. Reuter and Agence France-Press.

while the Russians quietly digested Afghanistan, the official claimed.

The Christian militia in Lebanon, with the help of Israeli supplies, had been able to hold their own against the PLO. Now the Russians had supplied the PLO with at least a dozen T34 tanks that would change the balance of power in the region.

Lebanon clashes: Rival right-wing factions battled with mortars and artillery in north Lebanon today and a left-wing leader gave warning of a new civil war unless the Government found a political solution to the country's divisions.

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## Catholics win struggle for Jasna Gora shrine

From John Darnton  
Warsaw, Feb. 12

The Roman Catholic Church has won what is coming to be called the "battle of Jasna Gora", the most significant church-state confrontation since the visit to Poland by the Pope last June.

The controversy is a case study in how local disputes get out of hand and have national repercussions when the two paramount institutions in Polish life—the church and the Communist Party—come to loggerheads.

It centered upon the expansion of a bumpy strip of road at the foot of the famous Pauline monastery in Czestochowa, the holiest shrine of Polish Catholics.

The church claimed that a 32ft-wide underground passageway being constructed for pedestrians under the expanded road was too narrow to accommodate the throngs of pilgrims. It suggested that the construction project was a plot by the local authorities to restrict access to the hilltop monastery, where the revered painting of the Black Madonna has drawn worshippers for 538 years.

The authorities, both in the provincial government and at the Office for Religious Affairs in Warsaw, said the project was simply designed to ease traffic congestion and make a perilous crossing safe. Privately, officials said the church was overreacting.

Beginning in September, Mgr Stefan Barla, the bishop of Czestochowa, fired off telegrams and letters to 11 government agencies and ministries.

He read a series of letters to his congregation, alleging, among other things, that the construction project was intended to defile the cult of the Madonna and ensure that the Pope, who often visited Jasna Gora when he was a cardinal in Cracow near by and who preached to over a million faithful during several masses there last June, would not return for the 600th anniversary of the monastery's founding in 1882.

He ordered that the church's mighty bell should toll for 10 minutes three times a day in protest.

Cardinal Wyszynski, the head of a church adhered to by more than 90 per cent of Poland's 35 million people, responded with outrage. He called the project an act of barbarism.

High-level church sources confirmed that the Pope himself became involved.

Last Friday, the Polish Government capitulated. A statement issued by the Polish news agency, Pap, reported that the dispute had been resolved. It said that under an agreement reached by a commission of church and state representatives, the authorities would abandon the tunnel underpass, close the cross street during pilgrimages and install a traffic light there.

Despite the compromise, feelings run high on both sides. Government officials insist that the agreement was reached as far back as January 7 and accuse the church of drumming up a needless controversy.—New York Times News Service.

## Absence of Polish Premier puts his future in doubt

Warsaw, Feb. 14.—The political future of Mr Piotr Jaroszewicz, the Polish Prime Minister, became increasingly in doubt today when he failed to make a planned afternoon speech before the Polish party congress.

His absence seemed particularly striking since he had been present at debates this morning. Polish officials said they could not say when the speech would be made.

The new uncertainty over Mr Jaroszewicz's political fate was

preceded by ambiguous statements on the governing of the country made by Mr Edward Gierek, the party secretary, and other congress delegates earlier this week. His position seemed shaky during discussions and meetings yesterday.

It appeared that Mr Jaroszewicz would no longer be part of the Politbureau and would be content to take care of business only until legislative elections on March 23. His health has been officially cited as the reason for his departure.—Agence France Presse.



## Iveco. Keeping the going good.

Fiat, OM, Lancia, Unic and Magirus-Deutz united to form Iveco. Together they represent 350 years of manufacturing experience. Working as one to broaden their research, they produce a highly specialized range of trucks and buses that are above all safe, reliable and economical to run. Truly a sharing of traditions, resources and technological know-how. And an international dealer network with years of experience working alongside hauliers.

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## Kampuchea 'faces famine threat'

Singapore, Feb. 14.—Food supplies in Kampuchea will run out by the end of next month and the war-ravaged country will then be entirely dependent on food from the outside world, a British aid worker said here today.

Mr Geoffrey Busby, a representative of Oxfam, said at least one million tonnes of food must be shipped into Kampuchea before the next harvest in October in order to prevent a disaster.

More than three million people, mainly in rural areas, would face starvation if the food failed to reach them in time, Mr Busby said.

The present food supplies will last till the end of March. Thereafter the country will be

entirely dependent on food from the outside to sustain its population until the next harvest in the autumn", he added.

The crisis had been caused by a poor harvest last season. Mr Busby, who has just returned from a one-week visit to Kampuchea, said that international relief agencies, including the Red Cross and the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef), could supply the vast amount of food, but a greater problem would be distribution within Phnom Penh.

The facilities at Som, Kam and Kompong Som, Kampuchea's two main ports where most food supplies land, have improved but the roads are in a poor state of

repair, making it difficult to speed up food deliveries to the countryside.

A great deal of organization and careful logistical plans will have to be worked out to make sure that big quantities of food are properly landed and distributed. Certain areas in the country are no-go areas as far as the Phnom Penh Government of Heng Samrin is concerned. They are Pol Pot areas, where people tell us fighting is still going on", he added.

Mr Busby said relief convoys were usually accompanied by Kampuchean military escorts. "Some aid workers, carrying medical supplies, move without any escort at all. We have never been harassed by Pol Pot forces."—Reuters.











SPORT  
Olympic Games



Nikolai Zimyatov put the Nordic skiing half of the world on red alert as he blazed the gold trail in the cross-country...

# Stock soars to hit a new Alpine peak



From John Hennessy  
Lake Placid, Feb. 14

Austria are not so much dominating the world in men's downhill skiing as they are in the rest of the team. In spite of leaving out of their team the holder of the Olympic title, Franz Klammer, and the world champion, Josef Walcher, they still provided the first two home in the first of the six Olympic Alpine events here today.

As if that were not enough for the rest to swallow, the winner was Leonhard Stock, who on his arrival here was regarded as the downhill reserve. Presumably by now all bitterness is forgotten, but the confusion caused by mastering the Whiteface Mountain course so convincingly in practice led to a blinding run among the Austrians in the actual race, and the elimination of Walcher.

Nor was that all. The second place was taken by Stock's compatriot, Peter Wirsberger, clad like Stock in red and white longitudinal stripes so that they looked like some form of Colorado beetle

strayed in from the west. Wirsberger's time was 1min 46.12sec, 0.55sec (a shattering margin in this event) behind Stock, and exactly half a second in front of the leading Canadian, Steve Podborski.

Stock was surrounded by hundreds of delighted competitors after his victory. He had not realized when he had achieved it that he fell into the arms of the Austrian coach, Udo Aibl. "It's great," Stock said. "But I am still too moved to appreciate the full significance of this title. I am sorry that Franz Klammer was not here, but I am very proud to be his successor. I had a faultless run. The course was perfect. The snow held well under my skis and the visibility did not bother me."

Before we go further, a word of recognition of Konrad Bartelski's twelfth place, the best ever achieved by a British skier. He finished with a respectable 33rd, 34th behind the winner, as many of us would think, but such is his competitive instinct that he may have honed for something better.

The other three Britons finished in bunch three-quarters of the way down the list. The best of them was the youngest, Ross Blyth, of Edinburgh, who is 18, and twenty-eight, one place ahead of David Cargill and one ahead of Alan Stewart, who was hampered by a brace on his damaged left knee.

There is no doubt that Stock was suited to this course with his critical eye. In fact, fifteen, since the first race, he was sent down first to set a line through two inches of new snow. He was the winner all the way. He negotiated the upper technical section

so successfully that he reached the first intermediate point in 37.01sec, which nobody else could match. American, Steve Podborski, 33rd, 34th behind, held the Austrian to within 100th of a second on the second section, but he had not the strength to sustain his challenge on the long straight leading to the finish. Stock drew further and further away, as the timing apparatus was later to show.

Wirsberger lost his chance at the top, which called for giant slalom technique rather than that appropriate to a downhill. He hung a millisecond of 1.21sec around his neck then and, in spite of a brave effort over the rest of the course, he was too much for him, as it would have been for every other skier in the world.

That top section soon proved the downfall of Ken Read, many people's choice for the race. His Canadian colour, but his principal virtue is his courage in tackling a time when others play for safety rather than negotiating with a tight course such as this is at the top. He threw caution to the wind and gave it all for a quarter of a second. Then he disappeared in a flurry of snow and he fought to maintain control of his wandering in all directions.

Whether Bartelski is satisfied or not with himself, he has restored his reputation in British eyes. Fifteenth in the world championship six years ago at the age of 20, he was thought to have a glowing future. There have been many vicissitudes since then, including a defection for two years to the Dutch, under a residential qualification.

Even if the uninitiated will not

understand it, he goes out of big skiing in a blaze of glory. Let them bear in mind, too, that the Soviet, American and Italian, blessed as they are with enormous ranges of mountains, could find only one man to beat him and the French and the West Germans none at all. The Soviet Union has a man in the first ten, Valeri Tsyganov, which may in future be seen as a significant event.

It is the first time that a Russian has been so well placed and, with the East Europeans beginning to make a challenge in Alpine events, we may see further Russians in this event.

Olympic sports: A dozen people narrowly escaped injury when the open truck body of the Snow-cat. Team of Russians, who were travelling on Whiteface Mountain to the men's downhill race collapsed, spilling them on to a steep snow-covered slope. About 15 people were thrown out in a tangled mass when one of the sides of the Snow-cat gave under the pressure of lodges.

They missed the heavy caterpillar tracks which drive the Snow-cats. They were swarmed by the men's downhill race collapsed, spilling them on to a steep snow-covered slope. About 15 people were thrown out in a tangled mass when one of the sides of the Snow-cat gave under the pressure of lodges.



... and Leonhard Stock sounded a similar warning for the other Alpine half as he caught the glint in the downhill.

## A new Russian follows an old Russian trail

Lake Placid, Feb. 14.—Nikolai Zimyatov, of the Soviet Union, today won the men's 30 kilometre cross-country ski race to take the first gold medal of the 1980 Winter Olympic Games. A student, aged 24, he finished the course in 1hr 27min 2.5sec to win by 31.42sec from Vasilii Rochev, also of the Soviet Union.

Ivan Lebanov earned Bulgaria their first medal of any Winter Olympics with a surprising third place in 1hr 28min 3.75sec. Thomas Wassberg, of Sweden, was fourth in 1hr 28min 40.35sec.

The Soviet victory was a repeat of the 1976 Olympics at Innsbruck, where Sergei Savoyev triumphed in 1hr 30min 29sec. Savoyev was in the Soviet contingent sent here this year but was dropped from the four-man team selected to race today.

The strong showing by Zimyatov and Rochev showed that the Soviet Union would probably dominate the Nordic events again.

The Soviet team won six of the 14 gold medals at Innsbruck. Light snow fell for most of the race, run over the Mount Van Hoevenberg course, which last week was packed with about 20 centimetres of artificial snow. For the last two years, started fifty-sixth in a field of 58 and had built up a handy 36-second lead over the Bulgarian at the halfway stage.

Rochev, aged 28, a Serviceman who was runner-up to Zimyatov in the Soviet 30 kilometre championship in 1978 and 1979, was in fourth place at halfway behind Zimyatov, but finished strongly in the last 15 kilometres.

A big disappointment was Oddvar Brå, of Norway, who had been favoured on the strength of winning 15 out of 25 big international races last year, including the pre-Olympic event here at Lake Placid. Brå, who had been troubled by a heavy cold for the past 10 days, finished in twelfth place in 1hr 30min 46.75sec.

RESULTS: 30 KILOMETRE CROSS-COUNTRY: 1. N. Zimyatov (USSR), 1hr 27min 2.5sec; 2. V. Rochev (USSR), 1hr 28min 31.42sec; 3. I. Lebanov (Bulgaria), 1hr 28min 33.75sec; 4. T. Wassberg (Sweden), 1hr 28min 40.35sec; 5. O. Brå (Norway), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 6. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 7. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 8. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 9. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 10. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 11. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 12. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 13. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 14. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 15. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 16. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 17. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 18. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 19. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 20. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 21. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 22. S. Savoyev (USSR), 1hr 29min 1.25sec; 23. S. 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PARLIAMENT, February 14, 1980

## Making unions pay for strikes: plan proceeds to link union funds with social security benefits

House of Commons  
Government plans for deeming certain amounts to be paid from trade union funds against supplementary benefit were going ahead, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said at question time. She added that she hoped to be able to make an announcement soon.

Mr Michael Brown (Brixton, Scunthorpe, C) had asked if she had noted that the ISTC had assets of around £11m and as yet had paid no strike pay. Is it not time (he went on) for the unions rather than the taxpayers to accept responsibility for the hardship they inflict upon their members, many of whom are on strike against their wishes?

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) totally agreed. A number of unions do pay strike pay and are paying it during the strike, but not the ISTC which has a large amount of money in investments. We said in our manifesto that we would deem certain amounts to be paid from union funds to the ISTC against supplementary benefits. Those plans are going ahead and I hope to be in a position to make an announcement soon.

Exchanges over the steel dispute and picketing in Sheffield began when Mr Iver Stambrook (Bromley, Orpington, C) asked—Has the Prime Minister seen the report of thousands of so-called pickets in violent disturbances outside Hadfield's this morning?

They were led by a notorious communist Labour protest—with no connection with the dispute whose true purpose was to create a revolutionary situation. (Labour cheers and Conservative interruptions.)

Mr George Foulkes (South Ayrshire, Lab) asked—Which aspects of her economic and industrial policies have been most successful so far? (More Labour laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher—There are two aspects. The civil law is being changed. I believe in Section 14 of the Employment Bill, and I hope we will see a solution of that

problem in that people in future can only lawfully picket at or near their place of work and an injunction could be taken against any not within that category.

On criminal law, I wholly agree with its implication, that the law is there and that numbers are both intimidating and obstructive. (Loud Conservative cheers.) Their presence is meant to intimidate. But I also agree that it is difficult to present to enforce that effectively.

Mr James Hamilton (Bothwell, Lab)—Will the Prime Minister reflect on the reasons for the hostile picketing in the steel industry? Will the Government grasp the nettle and become actively involved in this dispute?

Mrs Thatcher—There is a right peacefully to picket. That does not seem to viewers to be the right of picketing that is being exercised outside Hadfield's at the present time. Those who undertake picketing in other ways attract great criticism on the part of the public and we need to see these things better done.

The unions and management would prefer to get together to sort this out themselves.

Mr John Blackburn (Dudley, West, C)—Would the Prime Minister convey to the chief officer of police at the Hadfield works at Sheffield or support and sympathy for those officers who have been seriously injured in the lawlessness that has taken place. (Conservative cheers.)

Would she re-confirm the basic and moral right of workers not in dispute to go to their place of work and to work? (Renewed Conservative cheers and Labour interruptions.)

Mr George Foulkes (South Ayrshire, Lab)—Which aspects of her economic and industrial policies have been most successful so far? (More Labour laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher—Practically nearly all. (Further Conservative cheers and loud Labour laughter.)

Mr John Gost (Barnet, Hendon, North, C)—Would she consider limiting the right to assemble and demonstrate within the view or hearing of any place where there is an industrial dispute taking place?

Mrs Thatcher—It would be best if we went through the Bill as it is. There are considerable restrictions on the right to picket in Section 14. I understand it has yet to go through committee and report carried if any amendments needed there will be the opportunity to do so.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab)—Will she find out what the Chancellor of the Exchequer is doing, making all these speeches on the money market, is it that he expects his monetary policies to fail disastrously and is busy searching for a scapegoat?

Mrs Thatcher—He is making speeches on that subject because he is good at it. (Loud Labour laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher—I would be very happy indeed to convey Mr Blackburn's message to the chief constable and to the police for the difficulties they are carrying out their duties. Picketing of this kind puts a tremendous burden upon them and they have to give access to all areas by their own means. (Conservative cheers.)

I am happy to confirm that it is the right of the ordinary law-abiding citizen to go about his business lawfully and attend his place of work without hindrance and the right of a person where there is no dispute to carry on that business, to give access to all areas by their own means. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Patrick Cormack (South West Staffordshire, Lab)—The splendid answer the Prime Minister gave to Mr Blackburn would be much more effective if backed by the Leader of the Opposition. (Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher—There are times when I am grateful for his silence. (Laughter.)

## Hint to France: keep to rules or lose benefits

If a government continued to disregard the rules of the club they should start to lose some of the benefits, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during questions about the French ban on lamb imports from the United Kingdom.

Mr Walker said that the European Commission had started further legal proceedings against the French Government for its failure to comply with the ruling of the European Court and he was pressing the Commission to apply for an immediate injunction against the French measures.

Mr Colin Shepherd (Hereford, C)—Six months after the court gave its decision, the patience of sheepmeat producers has been sorely tried. Will he get behind the commission so that they waste not one hour in getting their interim

injunction on the French should their answers not be satisfactory?

Will he make certain that discussions concerning the ban do not form part of the price negotiations?

Mr Walker—I cannot guarantee that other governments will not endeavour to make it form part of the price negotiations. I undertake that we will not treat this as part of the price negotiations as most as a matter of legality or illegality.

Mr James Hill (Southampton, Test, C)—Is he able to confirm the documentary evidence coming out of the Commission's legal service department that France has been only flouting Community law but is the worst offender throughout Europe?

Would he use this against the French minister whenever this argument comes up with some sort of demand against our fishing industry?

Mr Walker—It is not a case of who is the worst. The French Govern-

ment is the only government in the history of the Community that has acted against the decision of the European Court.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot, Nat)—What will happen if the French if they are found guilty of infringing the rules?

Mr Stewart—They have been found guilty. In terms of the power of the Commission to make penalties, those powers do not exist in terms of forcing payment. But where power does exist it is with the Council of Ministers. I believe that if a government continues to disregard the rules of the club they should start to lose some of the benefits.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L)—In the exchanges asked what progress had been made in the export of lamb to France?

Mr Walker—The final day for the

## Further measures to boost employment

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, announced in a statement a number of changes for the coming financial year in the special employment measures.

Mr Prior said: We announced in June 1979 last year some changes in the programme of special employment measures for 1979-80 which were designed to focus resources on the most disadvantaged groups and to reduce public expenditure. The current programme of measures, which expires on March 31 and we have been reviewing the measures, again taking account of their cost-effectiveness, particular group needs and what we can afford. We have reached the following decisions on the programme to operate in the year from April 1, 1980.

We have agreed to a proposal from the Manpower Services Commission to increase the size of the youth opportunities programme from 250,000 to 260,000 entrants in 1980-81, with the number of filled places increasing to 100,000-105,000. This increase will be achieved by further work experience and training opportunities for unemployed young people designed to improve their skills and to give them a permanent job, and will enable the commission to continue to operate under the programme their present arrangements for unemployed school-leavers for 12 months or more.

We have also agreed to MSC proposals to maintain the community work scheme for socially or socially disadvantaged unemployed young people at the current level of 6,000 filled places.

Despite the fact that the temporary employment programme for long-term unemployed adults at 12,000-14,000 filled places, concentrated in the development areas and designated inner city areas.

We have decided that the small firm employment subsidy, which is the least cost-effective of the special employment measures, should close for applications on March 31, 1980. The temporary employment programme for long-term unemployed adults at 12,000-14,000 filled places, concentrated in the development areas and designated inner city areas.

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France, answering the Commission's demand, that I hope, therefore, within a few days, the Commission will take on the appropriate interim measures in the court against the French Government.

Mr David Miles (Barnet, C)—Is there any glimmer of hope of the prospect of agreement on an EEC common sheep regime that would be acceptable to our sheep farmers?

Mr Walker—As long as the French Government continue to insist upon a system of intervention, I see no chance at all.

Mr Douglas Jay (Windsor, Wiltshire, Lab)—Is there any point in remaining members of an organization where we keep the rules and the French do not?

Mr Walker—There is every point in the French keeping the rules.

fishing competitors got hidden subsidies.

Cheap fish imports were a serious problem. He was led to believe that the industry and fish buyers could agree a system of autonomous withdrawal prices higher than the official Common Market withdrawal prices but closer to viability.

This would necessitate some Government cash but some Common Market cash. Countries were already doing it. The industry felt cash injections were necessary. They were beginning to despair.

It was in the interests of British and European fishing to see that there was a proper scientific basis to total allowable catches. British and European waters had already suffered from the lack of sensible policies in the past. British fishermen were generally regarded as the most successful of the world's fisherman.

They wanted no self-made, no planned giveaways, no moves to subsidize without first consulting the House.

As most MPs would not stand for the present CAP rules of the budget and other consequences, they would stand for a new deal on fisheries. The results of those two main areas would be tantamount to the early 1980s whether Britain stayed in the EEC or withdrew was again seriously contemplated.

Mr Peter Clegg (North Fylde, C) said that the Government's Fleetwood had been the most crucial factor. It was hard to see with what waters the loss of deep sea vessels could be made up by the future was bleak. EEC partners were being bloody minded, especially the French who had much to lose if Spain went into the fishing policy as it stood.

Mr John Gillingham (Orkney and Shetland, Lab) said the Government should have a more flexible quota system. Now if fishermen brought up two particular kinds of fish in a net they had to throw one type back into the sea. This was lunacy.

Mr Alexander Pollock (Moray and Nairn, C) said fishermen had no desire for a handout approach, but were being imposed on by the EEC that its reputation was damaged by fishermen merely taking the North Sea as a fishing ground.

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## New transmitters for broadcasts to Russia

House of Lords  
The Government was not satisfied with the strength of the BBC transmitters used for the Russian language service and was providing £5.5m in the next two years to improve the quality of external broadcasts, Lord Treigarnie, Lord-in-Waiting, said during questions.

Lord Chelwood (C) had asked if the Government were aware of the strength of these transmitters Lord Treigarnie—The Government are not satisfied with the strength of the Russian language service and for this reason have made financial provision for a capital programme to improve the quality of the BBC's external broadcasts which is now under way.

The operating power of the BBC transmitters varies between 70 kilowatts (kW) and 250 kW. The Voice of America operates at 250 kW and Radio Liberty varies between 50 and 250 kW. West Germany and France operate at 100 kW, Italy at 100 kW and Spain at 350 kW.

According to the BBC, the Russian service is normally audible in the Moscow, Kiev and Leningrad areas, but the quality of reception varies according to the time of day, time of year and ionospheric conditions.

Lord Chelwood—That is encouraging.

ing so far as it goes. It is considered the longer it takes to provide BBC with powerful transmitters such as used not only by the countries as well, the more it will cost?

There has been a difficulty with planning permission for the start of one of the external services in the West Country, but I believe this has been overcome.

Lord Treigarnie—I agree with a good deal of what he says. The improvement of the quality of the Russian language service is regarded as a matter of priority by the Government. A sum of £1.8m of capital expenditure has been made available in the current financial year and a further £3.7m for 1980-81 and the Government are now considering the financial provision for subsequent years.

Lord Orr-Ewing (C)—This is an urgent problem and a great priority. The tremendous need to get the British view across in Russia and her satellites.

Lord Treigarnie—We must do what the Opposition are asking for. The resources. The new transmitters are unlikely to be in service, even with the expenditure I have referred to, until 1983.

## Broadcasting Bill on Monday

The main bills in the Commons next week will be the Broadcasting Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Debate on method of paying pensions and benefits. Proposed for private business and Midlands County Council Bill, Lords amendments.

Wednesday: Debate on Scottish Bill, Lords amendments. Thursday: Debate on airports policy. Friday: Private members' Bills.

The main business in the Lords will be: Monday: Industry Bill, second reading. Tuesday: Competition Bill, committee (first day).

Wednesday: Debate on economic situation in Cyprus; maritime policy; Wales. Thursday: Protection of Trading Interests Bill, report. Competition Bill, committee (second day).

Tough regime  
Mr Frank Baynes (Ashfield, Lab) asked the Home Secretary on what date the new tougher regimes will begin at Sand and Newhall detention camps.

Mr William Whitelaw—The pilot project will commence on or soon after April 21 1980. I will announce details of the regimes before they begin.

## UK athletes advised not to go to Moscow

The Government had decided to advise British athletes not to go to the Olympic Games in Moscow, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions.

She said: They have the same rights and the same maintenance as every citizen of the United Kingdom.

The Prime Minister was answering Mr Raymond Whitney (Wycombe, C) who said: Britain is represented on the International Olympic Committee by Lord Exeter and Lord Exeter was elected by no living Englishman and Lord Exeter was Lord Exeter.

The International Olympic Committee has just decided to stage in Moscow this summer a re-run of the Olympic Games in 1936. (Labour protests.)

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C)—On the decision of the International Olympic Committee to stage the Olympic Games in Moscow, the Government has had to decide what step to take next.

She said: The British athletes not to go to the Games in Moscow. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr James Kilfedder (Down, North, U)—Why is the Government attempting to penalize British athletes who have been training for years?

The Government could if it decided to penalize British athletes politically as such as withdrawing the British Ambassador.



## We thought about sabotaging it, and ended up insuring it.

The day British Aerospace asked us to insure two satellites being transported around Europe, one thought immediately crossed our mind.

Namely, that a satellite could very well disappear into thin air long before it reached the upper atmosphere.

(Just recently, we heard of a case of a NATO missile that vanished without trace for 24 hours somewhere in West Germany.)

Bearing this in mind, our Marine Department (the people who specialize in freight and cargo insurance), didn't just make it their business to insure the two satellites.

When they discovered that their combined value was in the region of £14 million, they even offered to help with the security arrangements.

First, they arranged with Securicor for overnight security for the satellite convoy in London. Then, the same again with the Harbour Police in Dover.

Once on the continent, they fixed direct radio contact with both the Dutch and German police, for which a special wavelength had to be opened.

Finally, police escorts were also set up to accompany the convoy through all the larger cities and provide an armed guard during overnight stops.

As a result of all these precautions, we're happy to say that both satellites were ferried from European test centre to European test centre without a hitch.

Of course such a massive security exercise would have tested the capabilities of even the most efficient insurance company.

And the fact that we came through with flying colours does seem to prove that we have more fingers on more buttons than most.

However, on a more down to earth level, the moral of our story isn't necessarily that we're experts at insuring the safe transportation of space satellites.

Or even that we're experts at all types of commercial and industrial insurance.

It's quite simply that, whatever your insurance problems, you can be sure of one thing.



At Commercial Union, we'll move heaven and earth to overcome them for you.

**We won't make a drama out of a crisis.**



# The strong case for bringing the Tories and the TUC closer together

The alert is over for the moment; the troops are being stood down for a few days. Now that the 1979 Committee has been pacified, and the parliamentary draughtsmen set to work on designing immunities, it seems a good moment to look at the implications of last week's events in the light of the Conservative Party's pre-election promises and rather long historical trends.

Ministers have learned very quickly the truth of Lord Hailsham's comment (in the 1976 Dimbleby lecture): "The actual situation with which a new Government is confronted is often vastly different from what it was imagined to be in opposition... but it is here that the doctrine of mandate takes over. However small the majority, however ill-advised the promises, however controversial the programme, the party activists insistently demand the redemption of all the pledges—egged on by the various pressure groups whose collective support has been won by the making of the pledges."

Spurred by the unexpected evolution of the steel strike and by the equally unexpected behaviour of the Law Lords, opinion in the Cabinet appears to have diverged not just on personalities but on fundamental issues about industrial policy and the balance of ideas in the Conservative Party.

The fact that the alert is over says no more than the Government will not try to legislate in a hurry and thus risk exposing itself as pennywise and short-sighted. It does not indicate that it will prematurely disown the deep desire for association with the state which the TUC continues to show by indirect means. And they have not yet, unwittingly, invited unfavourable comparisons by which they would certainly be judged at the next election.

So much will be a benefit only if it leads to a proper discussion of the main question: the apparent failure of our political system to provide the multiple form of interchange which, even in the 1950s—that lost golden age—Britain used to appear as a mature, plural democracy where compromise between powerful groups remained a creative element.

There is a real danger of arousing class conflict in Britain on a scale unknown since the aftermath of the First World War. On the one hand

there is the humane, sceptical Toryism which has characterised Conservative leaders from Disraeli onwards, which never underestimates the moral and political challenge set up by its opponents, and which understands the deep linkages of identity and self-interest beneath surface conflict in Parliament or industry, binding trade unions and employers to the pluralistic state (which I have, elsewhere, called "Corporate bias"). On the other hand, there is the contemporary tendency which is more obviously "right wing" than in any leadership since at least the days of Bonar Law.

The latter may be rational, indeed reasonable, but at the level of human understanding it too often betrays a narrow-minded class bias rooted in the most myopic and threatened sector of society, anti-pathetic to the values by which a large part of the nation lives. De-indexing unemployment benefit, for instance, however "logical" it will be depicted and felt as an attack on the most deprived areas.

It is worth recalling what Baldwin said on a similar occasion in 1925: "We believe in the justice of the Bill—but we are not going to push our political advantage home at a moment like this... we stand for peace, for the removal of suspicion in the country. We want to create an atmosphere in which the people can come together."

It is almost uncanny that Disraeli foresaw what might happen in 1868. "In a progressive country, change is constant, and the great question is not whether you should resist change which is inevitable, but whether that change should be carried out in deference to the manners, customs, laws and traditions of a people, or whether it should be carried out in deference to abstract principle and arbitrary general doctrines. The one is a national system, the other... a philosophical system. I have always considered that the Tory Party was the national party of England. It is not formed on a combination of oligarchy and philosophers who practise on the sectarian prejudices of a portion of the people."

Clashes between personalities reflect much older antagonisms. Before 1914 Sir H. Llewellyn Smith argued for the creation of a Ministry of Labour without port into central government.

Ernest Bevin set up a seven-a-side consultative council which worked through the war



the decisions between capital and labour since it would attract the affinity of trade unions seeking to counteract the natural affinity of bankers with the Treasury and of industrialists with the Board of Trade. These divisions exist today between civil servants as much as ministers. But what generates a different sort of trouble is that the Prime Minister is no longer a habitual broker between the two sides but appears firmly allied to the Treasury and the Department of Industry.

Is it possible that a breathing space will allow the Cabinet majority to think again about the deep commitment of men like Mr. Len Murray or Sir John Mervin to interdependence, and about the threat posed to them as much as to government by centrifugal forces whether from the small business lobby or militant shop stewards?

There could be no sharper contrast than that between the judiciously cool language of TUC leaders who are used to dealing with government and an ill-considered baying for "victory" which ignores essential facts about the trade union movement.

Profound structural changes in the size and composition of trade unions in the 1970s explain the TUC's recent low-key leadership and its often messy, inarticulate behaviour. It has, however, always operated best when on the defensive. Though it lost the battle during the General Strike in 1926 it won the war against a concerted policy of wage-cutting. Like a long spring it is flaccid when extended, stronger and more resilient the more it is depressed.

This is not to pre-judge the new Employment Bill in what ever form, but rather to point out that in the interest of national harmony it would not be inappropriate to take up Mr. Callaghan's advice about consultation. One of the most carefully judged pieces of declaratory legislation passed by a Conservative Government, this Public Order Bill, which effectively castrated the British Fascists, succeeded in the tricky field of civil liberties because it was issued after wide discussion and was operated on a basis of trust and inter-party consent.

Tory ministers have in the past talked about the importance of consultation rather than legislation—treated between powerful bodies, concerned by custom and self-interest, in preference to precise rules applied to continually changing situations.

But it is not enough to emphasise the need for calm, aggressive trade unions' threats to civil emergency. Recent opinion polls have reinforced a now familiar paradox that majorities of more than 75 per cent in favour of limiting aggressive trade unions' strike behaviour can co-exist with similar majorities who believe that unions "are essential to protect workers' interests" (MORI Poll, Sept 1978 and Feb 1979). The difference cannot be solely the result of the behaviour of strikers in the 1978-79 winter.

Patterns of trade union behaviour have changed little in this century. It is worth quoting Winston Churchill in that context: "The trade union organisation is very important. It is the most moderate of its officials

are the less representative it is; but it is the only organization with which the Government can deal. The curse of trade unionism is that there is not enough of it, and it is not highly enough developed."

Any government has the right to expect an institution like the TUC or CBI to fulfil a certain political duty. Without opening up the great constitutional question of the legitimate role in politics (an issue which has been judged here for half a century but faced in Germany and Sweden) it is fair to claim that such duties include representation of important sections of opinion during the process of economic and industrial planning. All views are not, of course, equally valid but all points of view are valuable in a democracy sustained by consent.

When the new law is passed, the Government could take this opportunity of defining what it sees as the proper political function of the TUC and CBI and consider taking Churchill's advice by providing aid by funding these bodies, not necessarily equally, so that they can fulfil their duty, enabling them without strings, to run adequate research departments, training programmes, and regional organizations.

The TUC and CBI could be given greater access to basic economic data such as the Treasury forecasting models or whatever other material informs economic decisions. Such moves require a proper forum. Ideas of an "industrial parliament" suggest corporatism and the subordination of Parliament, but the seven-a-side joint consultative councils under Ernest Bevin which worked after 1940 through the war accomplished as enormous amount. The National Economic Development Council, now a shadow—could if re-constituted recapture some of that lost consensus.

Is the time right now? Most doom-watchers are discussing the size and design of the last ditch, not the trench from which further advances will be possible; but it will be tragic if a government with a sufficient majority lapses into frenetic firefighting like its predecessors.

Keith Middlemas

The author is Reader in Modern History at the University of Sussex and author of *Politics in Industrial Society*, published by Andre Deutsch, £14.95.

## Daring men in their yellow flying machines

A unit of the Royal Air Force, whose members have won more than 100 decorations for personal gallantry in peacetime, celebrates a silver jubilee today. Celebrates is, however, perhaps the wrong word to use because the unit is No. 22 Squadron, part of the nation's helicopter rescue organization. It cannot hold anything approaching the RAF's usual idea of a party to mark the 25th anniversary of the day in 1955 when it was re-formed (after earlier disbandment) in the search and rescue role and equipped with some of the earliest of the now familiar yellow helicopters which fly around the coasts and among the mountains for the most part assisting civilians who are in some sort of trouble.

One of the reasons illustrating against a squadron party is that No. 22's five constituent flights are spread out at bases between Fifehire and Devonshire. The other is that at any given time two-thirds of its aircraft members are either on ten-minute or 60-minute notice to fly, and therefore may not (and do not want to) drink alcohol.

The present commanding officer, Squadron Leader Paddy Hayes, says therefore, that the occasion will have to be marked in a rather muted manner.

Number 22 Squadron was in fact the second RAF unit to be given the helicopter rescue role in the United Kingdom. Another squadron, No. 275, was formed in April 1953, but for obscure reasons twice changed its title first to 238 Squadron, then to 402 Squadron.

Number 22 Squadron was re-formed at Thornbury Island near Portsmouth under command of Squadron Leader Paul Bowry in 1955. Its "C" flight was formed at Valley, Anglesey in October of the same year, and has since then been based there. Because its location on one of the biggest training bases in the air force is surrounded by sea and mountains this flight nearly always comes top in the annual league tables for lives saved, recording its 2,000th rescue in



Sergeant Eric Smith of 22 Squadron going down to rescue survivors from the French trawler *Jeanne Gougy* aground on rocks near Land's End in November 1962. Sergeant Smith was awarded the George Medal for "titanic courage and utter disregard of his own safety."

1978. (The only thing approaching an "ace system" in the peacetime air force is based on lives saved rather than on "kills").

The official role of the two RAF Search and Rescue squadrons formed in the 1950s was to aid ditched and downed aircraft—of whom there were a great many in those early days of fast jet flying. Both the RAF and Royal Navy had by then proved the value of the helicopter as a life-saver in Malaysia and Korea and occasionally in the United Kingdom.

Very soon, however, the Coastguard service, the police were calling on them to aid civilians in trouble and the proportion of civilian to "military" rescues gradually rose to its present 90 per cent, with both the RAF and the Navy, plus two civilian companies now providing an extensive public service which, the taxpayer gets at a bargain price, partly because the two armed forces much prefer rescuing people to practising with dummies and oil drums.

Statistics for 1978 are expected to show that well over 1,000 civilians are indebted to helicopter crews either for their lives or at least for rapid extractions from uncomfortable or painful circumstances.

No. 22 Squadron's first civilian rescue took place on August 8, 1955, when a Mr Robert Read and his 10-year-old son David got into trouble in a small boat below the cliffs near Birling Gap in Sussex.

A Whirlwind helicopter crew from Thornbury Island consisting of Flight Lieutenant Keith Foster (pilot), Flight Sergeant Grant Scoggins (navigator) and Aircraftman Williams (winchman) responded to a call from an East Sussex police car whose crew could see the pair's plight from the cliffs but could do little to help.

Aircraftman Williams (in those days helicopter winchmen were not, as now, entitled to the minimum aircrew rank of sergeant) was dropped into heavy surf on the end of a wire, waded ashore across a reef of rocks, and lifted father and son to safety.

The squadron puts its grand total of rescues now at well over 5,000. It recorded 313 civilian and 16 military rescues last year by its flights now based at Leuchars (Fifehire), Leconfield (Yorkshire), Manston (Kent), Chivenor (Devon) and Valley (Anglesey).

Until four years ago all RAF rescue flights were equipped with single-engined Whirlwind helicopters, including those which often operated in mountain terrain in extreme weather conditions and it is regarded within the service as an eternal tribute to the engine manufacturers (Pratt & Whitney in the early days, and Rolls-Royce after the change over to jets) and to the often unrecog-nized ground crews, that not one single accident involving injury ever occurred during a rescue operation.

Three of 22 Squadron's flights—those at Leuchars, Manston and Valley now have twin-engined Wessex aircraft and the other four SAR Flights in 202 Squadron have the massive all-weather twin-engined Sea Kings. The 22 Squadron flights at Leconfield and Chivenor have to make do with their still much loved and trusted Whirlwinds for a few more years because the defence budget does not provide for any more new rescue helicopters after the £20m which was eventually spent on the long-overdue fleet of Sea Kings which came into service last year.

The winning of more than 100 gallantry decorations by one squadron in war would have been regarded as "a good show" in RAF slang in peacetime it is doubtful if it has been equaled anywhere in the world. One of 22 Squadron's winchmen, Master Air Loadmaster John Donnelly, now an instructor at Valley, has won the Air Force Medal twice.

The squadron badge which bears the motto in French, *Preux et Audacieux* (Gallant and Daring) was approved after 22 Squadron had served in Malta during the Abyssinian crisis of 1934 when equipped with biplane cockers. The badge is a reproduction of the somewhat baffling crestpiece of a Maltese Cross surrounded by the mathematical "pi" sign was devised because it was then under command of No. 7 Bomber Group and its pilots had a reputation for certain amount of low-flying over the latter formation's headquarters. As every schoolboy should know, pi is 22 over seven. The original motto seems to be as appropriate as ever, judging by the latest statistics.

John Chatteris

The author's illustrated book *Helicopter Rescue is due to be published by Just Allen Ltd in the autumn.*

Peter Nichols

## The dangerous gap for Italy's Christian Democrats

This fourteenth national congress of Italy's perpetually governing Christian Democrats looks so bleak that a bright and influential member of the party confided how he would like to go to sleep today and wake up in five days time when it is due to be over.

This will be the fourth Christian Democrat congress which will start with an uncertain outlook, and the first of the four to have no central theme on which the opposing sides can do battle. The congress must try and find a new secretary because the present one, Signor Benigno Zaccagnini, is intent on leaving political life, the capital city, those dreams of renewing the party, all behind him and go back to his home in Ravenna.

For a man who genuinely had little political ambition, he has

known heights of exhilaration and depths of gloomy pain that no other leader of this remarkable party has had to endure. He won the secretaryship at the last congress, to the happy surprise of his friends, though by a modest margin.

He became the symbol of the party's improvement with his honest face and remarkable appeal to the rank and file. His pole star and close friend was then chairman of the party, Signor Aldo Moro. When terrorists kidnapped Signor Moro and held him prisoner for nearly two months before murdering him, Signor Zaccagnini lived through the experience which has left deep marks on him through having had to keep the party firm in its resolve not to negotiate with the terrorists while his own human instincts, as well as the pleadings of the

Moro family, made inflexibility profoundly painful.

The terrorists who murdered Signor Vittorio Bachelet on Tuesday were reviving that pain, and probably intended to, Signor Bachelet, too, was a friend of Signor Moro. He was highly considered at the Vatican and had been close to the late Pope Paul VI whose touch of greatness over the Moro tragedy is now recognized as having been crucial in supporting Signor Zaccagnini at the time. It is said in the party that the Vatican has just now made an attempt to persuade Signor Zaccagnini to change his mind about going.

Despite the clear need to look for another secretary, the party is going to the congress without any agreement on the procedure to adopt in choosing the next one. Signor Zaccagnini was elected directly by the congress. His predecessors were appointed after the congress by the newly-elected national council. The outgoing secretary will open proceedings this afternoon by reading his report which will take some three hours.

There are at the moment three main candidates. The first is Signor Francesco Cossiga,

the present Prime Minister, who has similar outlook to that of Signor Zaccagnini, namely the Moro philosophy. He is a European, convinced of the need for friendship with the United States (where he has a personal success last month) and ready to see the collaboration of the Communists as well as the Socialists in governing the country.

Practically no one, however, in the Christian Democrat Party sees any likelihood of Communist participation in government, or the other way round. Signor Moro, on the actual day of his kidnapping, had brought them into the parliamentary majority supporting the Government, but no more. The international situation is now more complicated. The Communists themselves, with a following divided over Afghanistan as is was over parliament support for the Christian Democrats, are now bluntly saying that the only alternatives which interest them are opposition or the offer of ministers.

The second main likely candidate is Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the man whom Signor Zaccagnini so narrowly beat at the last national congress. He is absorbed by politics without re-

vealing much in the way of political opinion. His basic ground is rather more conservative than that of Signor Cossiga and he is not liked by the Communists. A third candidate, Signor Flaminio Piccoli, succeeded Signor Moro in the chairmanship and would now like to have the more direct running of the party which the secretaryship offers. He is thought the least likely to win if congress once again directly elects the secretary.

And there is always the adroit Signor Giulio Andreotti. His present role is supposed to be that of cultivating long-term ambition to succeed to the presidency of the republic and a short-term one of having a decisive influence on the alliances among the factions represented at the congress.

The party has ruled Italy for 35 years. The only break in its continuity is that a non-Christian Democrat prime minister is no longer ruled out. Before Signor Cossiga formed his Government, President Pertini did, in fact, invite the Socialist leader, Signor Bettino Craxi, to try his hand. He failed. But he accustomed people to the possibility, not that the Christian Democrats

show any sign of losing their position as the biggest party.

The real question facing the congress is difficult to define: it is that a congress without its own great issues must demonstrate to its own followers and to the country at large that the party possesses qualities of decision and foresight to meet the problems facing Italy which are indeed, great issues.

There are three alternatives to Christian Democrat ascendancy. The party needs internal change, especially among its seemingly perpetual holders of ministries. As one sharp observer put it, a series of a dozen or so heart attacks at the congress would help a lot. Terrorism, economic uncertainty, inflation, falling institutions, a dangerous gap between the governors and the governed, all call for a fresh approach, much as Signor Zaccagnini had in mind one whole congress ago.

The worst impression that can be given would be one of postponing decisions of just keeping going, and the deputy who hoped to sleep through the next five days thought that is what would happen.

Peter Nichols

## HONGKONG DIARY

Perhaps the Queen should abdicate in Hong Kong.



spotter planes spy the fore-runners of a new influx.

In the camp that I saw, 9,000 people wait their turn for resettlement. The women and children are being educated and many of the men have jobs. There is plenty of work in Hong Kong; indeed the boom in the construction industry is one of the reasons why the economy is running rather too hot.

For thousands of the people who have come in from China the dreamed-of good life has turned out to be years in squalid squatter blackspots and hard work in a dismal workshop. It is the sort of thing that some MPs rage at when they visit. They have a point. Hong Kong has achieved much in public housing (two million live in government built flats) and the amazing new towns in the New Territories are bursting like mushrooms. But housing targets have not been met and no doubt the government could do more, more quickly.

The great tower blocks, dressed out in bright washing, stuck on poles, are teaming. The Chinese are great washers (though the men are fearsome spitters) and each morning pretty girls emerge in droves from the blocks, crisp-skirted and bandbox bright, heading for work. And Hong Kong's middle name is work.

Any visitor has to come to terms with the contrasts and paradoxes of this pressure cooker place. People at the bottom of the heap live under cardboard roofs not so far from the golden halls of the Peninsula Hotel where cool ladies swirl. Lushery old rich-

shaw boys are reflected in the concourse of Rolls-Royces, preposterous cars for such congested roads; yet Hong Kong has a greater concentration of limos than almost any place on earth.

Many of the cars—some driven by men who made it from Hong Kong—are bought by lucky number plates bought in government auctions. The figure 8 is especially fortunate in Chinese belief, and the man with number plate 8888 will have much luck.

It seems natural that planes should be more or less in the middle of Hong Kong, on a finger of reclaimed land: the equivalent of jetliners touching down in Hyde Park. But it is one of the contrasts that Hong Kong is not entirely, as it seems at first, a football crowd packed into an allotment. There are parts of the countryside with a dreamy and rhythmic quality and there are many quiet, lovely islands where the pace is slow.

Meanwhile, back in the beehive, capitalism strides vigorously on. What will happen when the 99-year lease on most of the colony ends in 1997? Few worry about it. The Chinese have told businessmen to put their hearts more porous and Hong Kong businessmen are developing in the neighbouring districts of China. Better road and rail links with Canton are on the cards. Chinese banks and stores have a large stake in Hong Kong, and as huge resource of expertise and money Hong Kong has a role as pump primer for the Chinese economy. In any case China goes £1 million a day in foreign exchange from Hong Kong.

Colony is a word usually

avoided these days. And in almost all respects Hong Kong is an ex-colony. It is like nowhere else, a piece of China, firmly allied to the British.

There is no prospect of any democratic grid gearing into the smoothly-running gearbox of this condescending bureaucracy. On the whole, people like things the way they are; and China would not stand for radical change in any case.

Hong Kong is being urged to put a more human face on its materialism and much of the old rampant corruption has been cleaned up. "Walk tall", say the television commercials, "report corruption."

For all its westernised aspects, Hong Kong is China. It has a strong backbone of close-knit family life, traditional beliefs, cooking art, hard work and avoidance of authority. All but two per cent of the people are Chinese, pragmatic, a little pessimistic, but not sentimental. It is the British who are sentimental about Hong Kong, partly because it still evokes another era, partly because of its romance. Young men like it, of course, for its opportunities. "A place where you can create something and get on with the job," they say, brightly-eyed.

The Chinese may not share the newcomers' sense of excitement, but it is an exciting and merry place, with its surging ferries, its sense of China, its steamy food stalls, pungent odours, scents and stench. And, in a place of little waste, there is always business. The sale of nightgown to China is a £1m a year industry.

Trevor Fishlock

## How to Feel Good about Making your Will.

HOW MANY times have you felt you wanted to help people in poor countries who are so much less fortunate than yourself?

The children who are always hungry. The mothers who can't get medicines for their sick babies. The fathers who cannot support their families because they have no work.

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Now, when you are making your Will, is your chance to help. Because making a bequest in your Will couldn't be simpler.

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And, if you haven't made one yet, Oxfam have produced a helpful leaflet, "Will Making Simply Explained."

80% of Oxfam's aid is long-term, rather than short-term relief—because this is how we can make the money go on working for years to come.

We hope you will send for this leaflet or telephone Bruce Ronaldson today.

Please send me free copies of the Oxfam Legacy leaflet.

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ADDRESS

Oxfam, Room T14 254 Banbury Rd, Oxford OX2 7DZ. Tel: 0865 36777.

## Fat snakes and shiny Rolls in beehive city

Business was good in the snake shop. Fat snakes, poked at by discerning buyers, oozed luxuriously in cases awaiting slaughter and deft skinning on a bloodied chopping board. The Chinese attach mystic qualities to certain foods and my dinner host that night urged me to sup snake broth for its blood-warming properties. It was delicious. But I learnt later that some of the gamey flavour was imparted by shreds of civet cat, a prized Chinese delicacy; and I was sorry about that because the civet cat is a protected animal, covertly and cruelly killed by scalding.

A conservative palate has no business in Hong Kong. Nor an inelastic mind. As on its tables so in its streets, markets, waterways and vistas: Hong Kong is a catalogue of astonishment. A newcomer foreign devil gets caught up in the sheer vital anarchy of the place, the unremitting sweat of its long opportunities fever. Its diet is as rich in adrenalin as it is in the cholesterol of those plump, crisp Peking ducks.

Compared with the people of Hong Kong, sardines have it easy. In one of the world's most crowded places people are thigh-by-thigh on pavements no longer broad enough; and on footpaths, dinging buses and trams, bulging like over-stuffed suitcases. Walking in the main trading districts is no saunter but a push against the tide. And there is a central throbbing energy, as in a power plant.

The noises of Hong Kong are orchestrated by builders. New structures sprout like forced rhubarb to the roar of drills, grind and shovel and the constant thud of pile drivers. Old China hands last here 10 years ago gape at what has happened. New highways, flyovers and interchanges are crocheted into place to ease the jams, and the Legation of high rises, blocks jostle shoulder to shoulder. In this tangle on China everyone seeks his personal toehold. Apartment blocks seem pitted to the hillsides.

Among the middle classes the pip squeak as speculation, shortage and inflation make rents and prices seem grotesque. A million dollars for an ordinary flat—even Americans bleed. And so, in this temple of laissez-faire, the government has had to bring in rent control.

No square inch or minute of time is wasted in Hong Kong. Schools run two shifts a day and shops open until late evening. Twenty years ago the place had 3.1 million people. Now it has 2.5 million people. And still the people stream in from China. Immigration, both legal and illegal, has increased the population by 250,000 in the past two years.

The illegal immigrants take their desperate chances. If they can evade the army patrols on the border, avoid the sharks and endure the dangers of the snakeboats run by people-smugglers, they can make it to Hong Kong. There have been no large-scale arrivals for some weeks because of the weather in Vietnamese waters. But as conditions improve it cannot be long before the

immigration office for identity cards, preliminary tickets for a new life.

Hong Kong is their stepping stone, just as it is for Vietnamese refugees. The wretched boat people. Nearly 74,000 made it to Hong Kong in 1979, 24,000 were resettled in the United States, Canada, Europe and elsewhere, and 55,000 wait patiently in the limbo of the New Territories. They cannot be sent to Hong Kong. There have been no large-scale arrivals for some weeks because of the weather in Vietnamese waters. But as conditions improve it cannot be long before the











Storm cones  
hoisted over  
windy city,  
page 21

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

هكزامن الاخير

Atlas Copco  
compressed air systems.  
A force you can turn  
into profit.

**Stock markets**  
FT Index 473.9 down 4.3  
FT Gilt 66.97 down 0.08

**Sterling**  
\$2.3130 up 50 points  
Index 73.3 up 0.3

**Dollar**  
Index 85.2 up 0.1

**Gold**  
\$667.5 down \$27.5

**Money**  
3-mth sterling 17½-17¾  
3-mth Euro \$ 14A-14½  
6-mth Euro \$ 14½-14¾

### IN BRIT

## Europcar in bid for Godfrey Davis

Motor group Godfrey Davis has revealed the Paris-based Europcar is behind the approach to buy its United Kingdom, Dutch and Spanish daily rental and chauffeur-driven car hire business.

Midland Bank Industrial Investments has agreed to take a minority holding in the car hire operation if the deal goes through. The rental business accounts for around half of Davis's annual profits, and is thought to be worth between £10m and £20m.

**Dow 50pc of Cromarty**  
Dow Chemical has confirmed that it has bought a 50 per cent stake in Cromarty Petroleum, part of the Daniel K. Ludwig, worldwide empire. Last week, Dow applied for outline planning permission from the Highland Regional Council, to build a £150m gas separation plant and downstream petrochemical complex at a site owned by Cromarty Petroleum on Cromarty Firth, north-east Scotland.

**£5m Euroloan**  
Cleveland Bridge and Engineering is to borrow £5m over 10 years at 10.05 per cent from the European Investment Bank towards the £20m it is spending on a new steel cutting, forming and welding works at Darlington, Co Durham, expected to employ 925.

**Chrysler prospects**  
Mr Lee A. Iacocca, chairman of the Chrysler Corporation, said in a telephone interview with the New York Times that the firm might not need any of the emergency public financing approved by the United States Congress last year.

**£100m EEC loan**  
The European Economic Community said in Brussels it would lend the South of Scotland Electricity Board £100m to help finance a nuclear power plant in Torness, East Lothian.

**Pound stronger**  
Sterling rose sharply in late trading yesterday to reach its best closing levels since last summer. Against a basket of currencies, the pound rose 73.3 per cent of its end-1979 value, from 73 per cent on Wednesday. Its dollar value rose by 1 cent to \$2.3130.

**Stalemate in Paris**  
Talks on export credits between Western industrialized nations and Japan ended in Paris yesterday. They were held under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. No agreement was reached.

**Aerospace record**  
British aerospace industry reported goods worth £1,269m in 1979, nearly £100m up on the total for the previous year. This was the ninth year in succession in which the industry established a new export record.

**Wall Street down**  
The Dow Jones industrial average lost 10.07 to 893.77 as turnover slowed to 50.54m shares from yesterday's 63.23m. SDR-5 was 1.31891 and SDR-2 was 0.571749.

## CBI calls for tax cuts to benefit lower paid in next Budget

By Patricia Tisdall  
Management Correspondent

Tax cuts to aid lower paid workers are the unexpected main ingredient in the Confederation of British Industry's Budget proposals being put to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The CBI wants the Government to allocate more than half the £1,500m it estimates it can afford in overall tax cuts to raising personal allowances. This would remove about 500,000 of the poorest workers from income tax altogether and give below average wage-earners an extra £2 to £3 per week.

Revenue to pay for tax concessions could be raised by economies in government spending, disposal of public assets and a cut in EEC contributions. The CBI, whose recommendations are expected to have a strong influence on Treasury thinking, advocates no increase in duties on alcohol, petrol and tobacco because of the effect this could have on inflation.

Pressure for the emphasis in the proposals to be allocated to lower paid workers came from regional employers during last month's meeting of the CBI policy-making council. CBI officials meeting Sir Geoffrey Howe, on Monday, will argue that tax cuts would help to restore the incentive to work. Sir John Heslop Greenborough, the CBI president, said yesterday: "We wanted to concentrate the available resources in what we believe is the most effective way rather than to spread them thinly".

He added that "Nobody is going to be flush with money". It had been expected that the CBI would call for more tax cuts to help middle managers this year. However, while continuing to express great concern about this group, the CBI view is that improved pay for managers should come directly from companies.

Subsidiary budget proposals recommend a review of tax

### COST OF CBI PROPOSALS FOR TAX REDUCTIONS

	1980-81 (£m)
73 per cent real increase in personal allowances (over and above statutory adjustment for inflation)	900
Capital tax proposals and abolition of investment Income Surcharge and Development Land Tax	200
Improvement in stock relief	300
Reliefs for smaller firms, etc.	100
	1500

relief on mortgage interest and stress there should be no immediate increase in the taxation of company cars.

Industrialists continue to regard the reduction in inflation as the overriding priority. Despite the acute difficulties being caused by high interest rates they are supporting the Government's fiscal and monetary policies.

The CBI is clearly hoping to influence pay settlements by recommending that increases in indirect taxes should be avoided as far as possible and that caution should be exercised in increasing charges for government-provided services. Other economic forecasting groups have almost all assumed that the Chancellor would raise up to £1,500m in revenue by increasing duties on tobacco, alcohol, petrol and road fund licences.

Apart from recommending a rise in personal allowances, the CBI also calls for the abolition of the investment Income Surcharge, and the rate of inflation, the CBI package wants charges in capital transfer tax and capital gains tax. Both of these, it says, "are substantially harmful to businesses".

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Special measures are urged to help small businesses including tax exemptions.

## GEC stunned as Racal wins battle for Decca

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke  
Financial Editor

The battle for Decca ended abruptly yesterday when Racal Electronics said it had irrevocable acceptances from enough Decca shareholders to give it voting control of the company.

It secured this with a new equity offer worth £103m at last night's prices backed by a cash alternative of £100.7m.

General Electric Company, whose best offer is worth around £106m, was stunned by the Racal coup, but was accepting defeat last night. Sir Kenneth Bond, deputy managing director of GEC, said: "On the basis that Racal in fact have got control of the voting shares, there is nothing we can do about it."

Yesterday's events explain

why Racal and its advisers, Hill Samuel, have remained silent throughout this week. They were negotiating with major Decca shareholders, including Mrs S. Dimenstein, a Swiss resident and the daughter of the late Mr M. Rosenzweig, a former Decca director, who holds 8 per cent of Decca's votes.

By yesterday Racal had gained irrevocable acceptances from Mrs Dimenstein; the trustees of the late Sir Edward Lewis, Decca's former chairman who died during the bid battle, and other institutional shareholders.

Together with the small holdings of the Decca board, which is recommending this new offer, that gave Racal acceptances from holders of 38.1 per cent of the voting capital.

It then went into the stock market yesterday morning and bought a further 403,000 Decca ordinary shares, taking its own holding up to 12.3 per cent of the voting capital. That gave Racal bare control of Decca. It now has only to send out its official offer to declare its bid unconditional in which case the acceptances become finally irrevocable. GEC cannot match this.

Racal's new terms are three ordinary shares for each Decca ordinary and five Racal shares for every two Decca "A" non-voting shares. On the basis of last night's Racal share price this values each Decca ordinary at 62½p and each "A" at 51½p. Racal is also offering a cash alternative of 600p per Decca ordinary and 500p for each "A".

GEC's best offer is in convertible loan stock which, assuming the stock would hold a premium of 10 per cent over par (which the stock market thinks it would), values each Decca ordinary at 643p.

This becomes academic now that Racal has gained its winning position with a shut-out bid, but Sir Kenneth Bond was clearly unhappy last night about how it had happened. He said: "On one hand we are pleased that the uncertainty has been removed which is to the benefit of the Decca business."

"On the other hand we are a little bit mystified as to how they have been able to collect the shares other than family shares."

"We were not given the opportunity of being asked

whether we would have been prepared to pay more. The directors (of Decca) do not know whether they could have done better for their shareholders. At least we have done some good for Decca shareholders whether they could have done better is something they ought to ask their directors."

Decca's board, at that time still headed by Sir Edward Lewis, had backed Racal's first offer of £65½m. It looked for a time as though the matter was settled, and that the offer reflected the considerable trading problems of Decca. Then GEC countered, and the result at the end of the day is that Decca shareholders have been offered another £38m.

Financial Editor, page 21

## BNOC sale plan hits delay over PSBR

By Nicholas Hirst

Government plans to invite private capital into the state-owned British National Oil Corporation are running into increasing difficulties because of the adverse effects a share sale could have on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement in future years.

The complexity of the sale, coupled with difficulties of timing, could even prove so great that the whole idea may have to be scrapped, but at the moment, despite differences between the Government Department and Number 10 Downing Street, ministers still believe that the plan can proceed. An announcement, however, has now been delayed for several weeks.

The basic plan was to split BNOC in two, retaining the oil trading arm which has rights to 51 per cent of all offshore production in Government hands so securing future oil supplies for the nation, but creating a new company, BNOC Exploration and Production Company.

As yet the Government has been unable to decide whether to offer ultimately more or less than 50 per cent of this company to the public. With BNOC's North Sea assets valued at up to £2,500m a sale of more than a third might be difficult for the stock market to swallow.

The central problem, however, is that it would appear impossible to float shares on the Stock Exchange unless the new corporation has freedom from Government interference. Once Government relinquishes control, however, even if only 10 per cent of the company were sold off, BNOC's revenues could no longer flow directly into the consolidated fund through the national oil account as net cash. Only dividend payments would flow into the exchequer and only they would be available to offset the borrowing requirements.

As dividends could well be far less than net cash flow, the Government could be losing substantially in future years. With BNOC expected to make a net contribution to the Government of £100m in 1980-81, rising to more than £1,000m in 1983-84, it is being asked whether the sacrifice to raise, perhaps £700m towards the PSBR by a share sale in 1980-81 is too great.

It is not even certain that legislation can be passed in time for assets to be transferred to the new company within the next financial year. New cash inflows from BNOC the following year, however, could be almost as great as the amount which could be raised by a share sale.

## Coal prices rise 20 pc for industry

By Our Energy Correspondent

Coal prices for industrial users are to rise by an average of just over 20 per cent from March 1, the National Coal Board announced yesterday. The rises are to take account of the 20 per cent wage increase for miners beginning next month and their 10 per cent interim award covering January and February, as well as rises in other production costs.

Domestic customers face an increase of 8 per cent for house coal and 10 or 11 per cent for smokeless varieties between March and July when prices will go up again by an average 5 per cent.

The coal board's biggest customer, the Central Electricity Generating Board, has agreed to continue to take 75 million tonnes of production during 1980.

An understanding between the CEBG and the NCB was reached last year for the CEBG to take 75 million tonnes for five years provided the NCB kept its price rises within the general rate of inflation. It is understood that the CEBG will be paying less than the average 20 per cent increase.

A special rate has also been negotiated for supplies of five million tonnes of coking coal to the British Steel Corporation. Coking coal is going up by an average 15 per cent.

## BL needs merger to survive, report says

By Donald MacIntyre  
Labour Reporter

British Leyland has little chance of survival in its present form without a merger or re-organising partnership deal with one or more foreign manufacturers, according to an independent consultants' report disclosed yesterday.

The report was prepared by the Paris-based firm Eurofinance for the Transport and General Workers' Union. It says that even after rebuilding its product range and meeting production targets "The odds are heavily against BL (on its own) in the longer term."

The report, whose main conclusions were rejected by British Leyland last night, states: "As a result of damage suffered in the 1970s BL is now the smallest and weakest full-range motor vehicle manufacturer in the world."

"It has no overseas production (as opposed to assembly) bases, an aging and uncompetitive product range and is pitifully short of skilled technical and engineering resources. Its market share is shrinking and dealers are deserting."

Eurofinance suggests that even Leyland Vehicles, despite introduction this year of the new T45 truck, may be vulnerable because of "its small size and weak European presence."

trial relations. It sees a major threat to BL as a volume car manufacturer, describing the company's problems as acute with "things likely to get worse in the next 12 to 24 months".

Eurofinance says that BL's link with Honda, with which it will be jointly launching the new Bounty model in the latter half of next year, is not yet a real partnership.

Partnership would involve joint manufacture of components and component sharing and that would mean BL modifying its idiosyncratic "producing all-British cars in all-British factories..."

The report argues strongly that BL with an annual output target of 750,000 to 800,000 cars, is ill-placed to reap the economies of scale afforded to the much higher producing multinational companies.

It points out that BL's target compares with the 750,000 units produced by Vauxhall manufacturers in the Gulf range alone.

British Leyland said yesterday: "There is no question of BL merging with anyone else. We firmly believe that given our new model programme, our capital investment programme and the support of the workforce we have, BL is quite able to make a success of itself."

## Hopes of new bid for Furness

By Ronald Pullen

Speculation mounted yesterday of a counter-bidder for shipping group Furness Withy after the £96.5m approach from Mr C. Y. Tung's Hongkong-based Orient Overseas Corporation.

Holdings in Furness Withy shares jumped a fifth to 40½p at one point then dropped back to 36½p for a net gain on the day of 33p, and around 50 per cent increase over the past week.

Fuelling the rumours was news that European Ferries quickly took advantage of Furness Withy's strength to place its 4.99 per cent holding and that the entire stake had been sold to a United Kingdom company which had made a direct approach through the market for European Ferries' stake.

Keith Wickenden, chairman of European Ferries, said that he accepted 380p a share for the holding which provided the company with a £1.9m profit, because "the present Furness share price overvalues the company". Explaining his decision to sell so quickly, Mr Wickenden added he thought the Tung bid would be referred to the Monopolies Commission because of its earlier decision that Mr. Narby's Euro-canadian holding in Furness was against the interests of the British shipping industry.

Further market purchases have taken OOC's direct stake in Furness up to 5.31 per cent. The attitude of Rea Brothers, the merchant banker which is understood to control around 25 per cent of the Furness equity, will be crucial. Mr Narby and shareholders in Euro-canadian also speak for about 17 per cent of Furness shares.

## SE orders inquiry on Gold Fields dealings

By Michael Prest

The Stock Exchange last night announced that it is to set up an investigation into recent dealings in shares in Consolidated Gold Fields. At the same time, Mr Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange's chairman, said he was very concerned that some shareholders were offered a higher price than others.

In Westminster as well as in the City stock waves from Anglo-American's acquisition of 25 per cent in Gold Fields are still being felt. Four MPs have tabled questions asking whether powers are sufficient to prevent foreign companies surreptitiously building up stakes and whether the Government intends to take any action.

Two written questions have been asked by Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, asking the Secretary of State for Trade to note the Anglo deal and its effect on small shareholders and asking if any action is contemplated against foreign groups' growing holdings in United Kingdom companies.

Mr Beaumont-Dark, a partner in the stockbroking firm of Smith, Kent, Currier, expects answers to his questions early next week. He says that if the replies are unsatisfactory he may propose a system such as that used in the United States whereby, once a certain percentage of a company has been acquired, the purchaser must tender for the outstanding shares at a fixed price.

The Stock Exchange's investigation, which will probably consist of three members of its quotations committee, has the brief of examining company law as it affects disclosures, asking if registration could be faster, looking at possible amendments to codes of practice, and keeping in touch with other authorities such as the inspectors into Gold Fields appointed on Tuesday by the Department of Trade.

No date has been fixed by which the committee should report. Some City sources are wondering why the inquiry was not started three weeks ago when Gold Fields first approached the Stock Exchange.

## £5m joint venture for factories

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Editor

Legal and General Assurance Society is to enter into a partnership with the Government's English Industrial Estates Corporation (EIEC) in a £5m deal to build advanced factories in assisted areas.

The venture, announced yesterday by Mr David Mitchell, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Industry, precedes enactment of the Industry Bill now receiving a Second Reading in the House of Lords, which gives new functions to the EIEC and provides for a change in the status of the corporation.

Under the deal, EIEC agreed in principle with Legal and General to construct 300,000 sq ft of factories and warehouses with funds from the insurance group. The development will be located at Team Valley, Gateshead, Elland, Goldthorpe and a third site in Yorkshire, will be worth about £5m and will be carried out on sites owned or leased by the EIEC and originally bought by the corporation for Government-financed advanced factories.

The deal, which is expected to be followed by others, will go ahead on the enactment of the Industry Bill.

Legal and General will provide the interim finance and will retain the developments. The rate of return will be between 81 per cent and 83 per cent according to the site.

Mr Mitchell described the venture as an "excellent example of public and private sector cooperation" which would allow an increase in advanced factory building to go ahead without additional cost to public funds.

## Small firms subsidy to end

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent

Abolition of the small firms employment subsidy scheme from the end of next month was announced yesterday by Mr James Riggall, Secretary of State for Employment.

In the new financial year the overall cost of special employment measures will be an estimated £360m compared with an expenditure of £374m in the current financial year.

The small firms scheme offered certain companies in the private sector with less than 200 workers a subsidy of £20

a week for up to 26 weeks for each extra full-time job over and above the number of jobs provided on a given base date. In July the scheme was modified and the subsidy limited to small manufacturing firms in special development areas. At the end of last year 36,400 workers were covered.

Against the background of the cut Mr Riggall announced that the youth opportunities programme operated by the MSC will be expanded. Parliamentary report, page 14

## Annual money supply up 12.2pc

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent

Sterling M3, the broad measure of money, grew by 1.1 per cent in the January banking month in spite of a huge flow of funds from the private sector to the Government.

The January figures mean that M3 has now grown at an annualized rate of 12.2 per cent since last June. This compares with the Government's target of 7.1 per cent in the period between June, 1979, and October, 1980.

Although the January figure was very much in line with indications given by the Bank of England last week, it still leaves the monetary authorities with a considerable task in bringing growth back on course. Ministers have already made it clear that the aim is not simply to bring monetary growth back inside the top end of their target range but to finish up with it closer to the middle of the range.

The hope continues to be that the combination of the cyclical downturn in the economy and last November's steep rise in interest rates will soon start to reduce the private sector's seemingly unquenchable thirst for credit.

But there are considerable uncertainties as to how rapidly this is likely to take place. While there are encouraging indications of a slowdown in consumer spending and demand for consumer credit, industry continues to increase its borrowings significantly. Sooner or later manufacturers can be expected to concentrate on running down their stocks. British Leyland is an obvious example here; but at the same time companies remain under a severe cash squeeze as labour and raw material costs continue to rise sharply.

For the Government the need for signs of improvement is now becoming urgent. It is generally assumed that the Government

is counting on a much slower growth in private sector loan demand to justify both proposing a relatively high public sector borrowing requirement for 1980-81 and holding out the prospect of a fall in interest rates.

Unless, therefore, improvement is quickly forthcoming, its whole Budget strategy would tend to become very much more high-risk.

The basic figures for the five weeks to January 16 show that the public sector contribution to domestic credit expansion was negative to the tune of £370m (after gift edged sales to the non-bank private sector of £1,626m; that bank lending to the private and overseas sectors rose by £1,492m; and that total domestic credit expanded by £522m. Adding in the impact of positive flows across the exchanges, sterling M3 rose by 626m, or 1.1 per cent. M1, the narrow measure of money, was barely changed for the second month running.

WHERE IN THE WORLD  
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### PRICE CHANGES

Rises			
Barlow Rand	35p to 40½p	Lesney Ord	5p to 35p
Furness Withy	35p to 36½p	Centrust	40c to 800c
Groutville	35c to 92½c	Streeters	20p to 17p
Int Thomson	23p to 49½p	Sungel Sea	20p to 290p
Killinghall	20p to 34½p	W Rand Cons	83c to 813c
Falls			
Decca	15p to 58½p	Nthgate Explor	20p to 520p
Freemans	20p to 11½p	Plessey	10p to 14½p
Guthrie Corp	33p to 83½p	Ricat	20p to 207p
Howard Mach	5p to 10p	RTZ	16p to 468p
Ldn Samatra	17p to 44½p	Youghal Cpts	1p to 15p

### THE POUND

	Bank	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells	sells
Australia \$	2.13	2.05	4.37
Austria Sch	30.25	28.25	11.12
Belgium Fr	69.00	65.50	1.72
Canada \$	2.73	2.66	1.50
Denmark Kr	12.97	8.48	9.48
Finland Mk	5.83	9.25	3.69
France Fr	67.00	3.98	2.30
Germany Dm	92.00	11.00	48.50
Greece Dr	11.60	1.08	
Ireland Pd	1.12	1870.00	
Italy Lira	1960.00	559.00	
Japan Yen	584.00		





## 'Production inhibited by inflation' - Gatt

In describing near-term trade prospects as "not encouraging," Gatt (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) says in Geneva that uncertainty generated by inflation and protectionist pressures continues to be the main factor inhibiting productive investment.

"Inflationary expectations have become more firmly entrenched, and the confidence which economic agents can plan their actions continues to be eroded," Gatt added, in its first 1980 assessment. "The most important task of policy is to alter these expectations, since it is mainly on their state that both the length and the cost of the fight against inflation depend."

It points to the necessity of curbing monetary restraint with measures to minimize relative price distortions, promote competition and increase responsiveness of the economy in changing conditions—for example by allowing domestic energy prices to reflect world market levels.

### Italy seeks fibre curbs

Italy plans to inform Mr. Roubini, the United States trade negotiator of its intention to seek curbs on imports of certain synthetic fibres from the United States, Italian official sources said yesterday.

### Silver output up

Mexican silver production should rise about 18 per cent in 1980, said Señor Ricardo Rojo, director of Industrias Penoles SA, one of the country's largest mining and metal-working companies. Output should reach 65 million trays ounces. About 70 per cent will be exported.

### New Zealand deficit

New Zealand had a balance of payments deficit of NZ\$37m (about £223m) in the year ended December 12, compared with a deficit of NZ\$392m the previous year, the reserve bank of New Zealand reports.

### Bonn-East trade fall

West Germany's trade surplus with the Soviet Union, other east European countries, China and North Korea declined 44.6 per cent in 1979 from 1978, according to figures published by the Bonn economics ministry.

### Fewer ships ordered

Foreign shipbuilding orders received by Japanese shipyards in January fell to 16 ships, totalling 391,900 gross tons, from 45 and 1.31 million tons, but rose from 11 and 218,800 tons a year ago, the Japan Ship Exporters Association said in Tokyo.

### Dutch c.o.l. rise

Dutch cost of living index rose 5.5 per cent to a provisional 129.0 base 1975, in the year to mid-January, compared with 4.8 per cent in the year to mid-December, according to economics ministry figures released at The Hague.

## Yards ready to consider implications of 15-month self-funding deal Shipbuilders swallow bitter pill on jobs and pay

Over the next few days, shipyard workers will be considering the implications of the new fifteen-month pay deal agreed with British Shipbuilders. The loss-making shipbuilding corporation appears to have succeeded in securing a deal which has so far eluded the negotiators of the British Steel Corporation.

Comparisons are unavoidable. Both are operating in an international market where demand for products has disintegrated; where costs are rising; where competition is intense; and where productivity is low by standards of their major international competitors.

Equally, both industries are being squeezed by the Government's insistence on a return to commercial reality to be achieved within the framework of rigorously applied cash limits. And both have had to contend with the need to rationalize facilities and reduce labour.

BS entered the negotiations against the background of a continued gloomy international outlook for the next two or three years but with agreement secured last autumn with the unions for a shake-out of some 10,000 workers from its labour force.

The corporation has been successful in carrying through redundancies since it was nationalized in 1977. About 12,000 workers have left the industry since then, though the enhanced redundancy terms made available in shipbuilding.

The unions, who negotiate through the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, have huffed and puffed over the level of cutbacks required. But their eventual agreement has enabled the board of BS to move forward its plans



Mr Michael Casey: pay deal will bring stability to industry.

for further reductions and the likelihood of trouble, while always present, is not seen as a major threat.

The industry's 76,000 workers are being asked to accept a fifteen-month deal which falls well below the aspirations of their union negotiators when discussions began, and well below the 20 per cent which has become the rallying call for striking steelworkers. But the settlement at national level is within a hairbreadth of the 14 per cent which BSC believed it had secured with its craft unions yesterday until its two-to-one rejection at a delegate conference. At the Treasury, the shipbuilding deal has been seized on by officials as more than encouraging and is seen as a success for the cash limits policy.

Shipyard workers will receive a 10 per cent rise from April 1 on present rates in individual yards (not on minimum

rates) with a further 5 per cent in October. To bridge the gap caused by the change in settlement dates—from January to April—there will be a lump sum payment of £125 for semi and unskilled workers, £150 for skilled workers and £200 for managers and foremen. This amounts to an 11.5 per cent increase on an annual basis according to British Steel.

The deal will cost £52m and (unlike BSC's attempts so far) will be self-funding.

Mr Michael Casey, the chief executive of the corporation emphasized that the deal would give a stable period at a critical time for the industry which is still working towards its base load target of 45 merchant ship orders for 26 weeks. Vital to the industry's ability to meet its targets are the improvements in productivity which have eluded the industry for so long. The target is to boost productivity—expressed in terms of tonnes per man year—by 82 per cent by 1982-83 compared with the average from the 1973-77 period.

Latest published figures show that the taxpayer is subsidizing the shipbuilding industry at a rate of £297 per man. The corporation ends its financial year next April. A loss of £53 million was recorded for the first half, although the corporation is optimistic that it will remain inside the Government-set loss limit of £100m for the full year. But the cash constraints will be tightened next year and will be a critical test for the management and the unions.

Peter Hill

## Leyland setbacks not isolated in motor industry's global crisis

By Clifford Webb

The full extent of the crisis facing the motor industry worldwide is only now emerging, and shows that British Leyland's latest sales setback is far from isolated. In the United States it is reported that 260,000 of the 758,000 hourly paid motor industry workers are laid off, and Ford is expected to report a \$1,700m (£736.5m) loss for last year. American production in January was 35 per cent down on the same month last year.

General Motors, the world's largest motor manufacturer, whose profits were halved last month, is stopping some shifts entirely. Chrysler's critical situation with the federal government providing big financial assistance after the corporation's biggest-ever loss of \$1,100m is still giving rise to concern about its ability to ride out the present storm.

In Canada, production so far this year is reported to have fallen by over a third, with Chrysler Canada closing one plant.

In Europe, short-time working and layoffs are extensive, and expected to get worse. In Germany, for so long the pace-setter, Ford Granada production was halted for six weeks at the end of 1979, and is reported to have resumed at very reduced levels.

Attempts are being made to switch production to the much smaller Fiesta which is still in good demand. Opel has also introduced short-time working in its factories, and there are reports that extensive layoffs are on the way. Industry sources suggest that Mercedes Benz, which has enjoyed a long winning list for its cars for several years, is now receiving substantial cancellations of orders.

In France, PSA/Talbot is operating extensive short-time working throughout its plant, and is reliably reported to be forecasting heavy losses this year. Talbot (UK)—the former Chrysler company—is expected to report losses of £40m for last year. Citroën has shut down all its plants for two days.

In Italy, Fiat has cut its production schedules and will be lucky to break even.

A BL spokesman said last night: "We are not surprised by what is happening in the rest of the world, and it does put our troubles into perspective. Hundreds of thousands of workers are laid off in America. The whole industry worldwide is facing a recession because of depressed markets brought about by rising fuel costs, and fears of a general economic setback."

## BL order to manufacture German truck gearbox

By Our Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Leyland Vehicles, the truck and bus arm of British Leyland, yesterday signed its first deal to manufacture a major foreign component in its factories. More joint-venture projects were foreshadowed by Mr David Abell, LV's chairman and managing director.

ZF of Friedrichshafen, Germany, Europe's leading independent gearbox producer, has licensed Leyland to manufacture its new S6-36 synchromesh box for installation in a range of 12 to 24-ton trucks which will go into production at Baskgate in Scotland during 1983.

Leyland's existing medium-weight boxes are outdated and of the "crash" gear-change type.

Mr Abell told a press conference in London: "Every-

one's future in the truck business depends on greater co-operation in the design and production of components. Leyland has been criticized in the past for being isolationist. This is no longer true, as the deal with ZF shows.

"Other joint ventures involving Leyland and component manufacturers will follow. We now have much to offer in the way of new models. It is not oversteering the case to say that LV is poised for an exciting new period in its history and the competition is well aware of this."

Last month Leyland launched the Landtrain, a new super heavyweight truck designed for use in developing countries. A new European heavy truck, code-named T45, will follow next month and will be the first of an entire new family of trucks.

## VW heads attack on lorry sales in the UK

By Edward Townsend

MAN-VW Truck and Bus, the joint United Kingdom marketing operation for the two German vehicle manufacturers, said yesterday it planned to increase sales in the United Kingdom this year to 10,000 units, a rise of more than 42 per cent on 1979.

The forecast, made in the face of an expected 15 per cent decline in van and lorry sales in the United Kingdom this year, emphasizes the growing competition among manufacturers, particularly in the heavy truck sector.

The importers, led by VW which is strong at the lighter end of the market, are all launching major sales offensives designed to capture business from the home producers BL, Ford, Dodge and Bedford.

MAN-VW, established in the United Kingdom a year ago, plans to spend almost £3m in 1980 on a new head office, warehouse, training and technical centre at Swindon and is embarking on a dealer recruitment drive to boost the combined total of outlets from the 1979 level of 104 to 160.

In the coming 12 months it is hoped that sales of heavy trucks will double to 2,000 units and give the companies 6 per cent of the market. VW light trucks already hold 17.5 per cent of the United Kingdom market and the target in this sector is to boost sales by 2,000 units to 8,000 this year and increase market share to 24 per cent.

## Bonn favours 'bigger and better' aid for Turkey

From Peter Norman

Intermittent economic aid for Turkey this year will have to be "quantitatively bigger and qualitatively better" than the \$960m (about £417m) scheme arranged in 1979, and embedded in a medium to long term programme for curing the country's economic ills.

This is the message that Herr Hans Matthöfer, the West German finance minister, has been spelling out to other Western finance ministers as coordinator of the latest international effort to put Turkey back on its feet.

West Germany has taken the leading role in trying to resuscitate Turkey's crippled economy since the Godeloupe summit at the beginning of 1979. For the past three weeks, Herr Matthöfer has, at the specific request of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, been engaged in a welter of discussions designed to pull together a new assistance programme under OECD auspices in time for an international "pledging conference" in Paris on March 25.

The Germans are particularly concerned that the aid to Turkey should be granted on



Mr Borrie: talks about fees with valuers and architects.

that also involved Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

Discussions are also to be held shortly with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and other surveyors' organizations about that part of their members' work classified as quantity surveying, a service which is specifically excluded from official surveillance under restrictive practices legislation.

The chartered surveyors have asked the Restrictive Practices Court to rule on whether some other surveying work is also excluded from the restrictive practices legislation.

Mr Borrie is having talks with the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers about various agreements which may be restrictive. These include scales of fees for valuations.

Talks have also been resumed between Mr Borrie and the Royal Institute of British Architects about their mandatory fees scales, following an intervention by Mrs Oppenheim.

The minister has decided for the time being not to set up an independent committee to determine guidance fee scales.

Liberal terms, Project-linking and other strings attached to contributions to last year's deal meant that by the end of last month only about half of the \$960m pledged by the West had been transferred to Ankara.

According to information supplied by the Turks, the Scandinavian countries were, apart from West Germany and the United States, the only participants in the 1979 scheme to have transferred their promised contributions in full by the end of January.

Britain's promised contribution of \$34.2m was apparently one of those still outstanding.

The eventual size of the economic aid being arranged by Herr Matthöfer this year must still be the subject of speculation. He leaves Bonn on Saturday for Geneva, where he will meet representatives of the Saudi government to see if they will contribute and he is going on for further discussions in Athens and Ankara itself.

Of the more crucial importance will be the talks that he is due to hold in Washington in the first week of March. Any agreement on figures in Washington would more or less determine the scope of the final assistance offered.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DHSS advantage in company insolvency 'particularly unfair'

From Mr A. M. Homan

Sir, Ian Watt's article headed "Insolvency: the state's unfair advantage" in your issue of February 11 rightly focuses attention on the Crown's increasing priority treatment in insolvencies. One of the effects of this is to erode the assets with which a liquidator or receiver is entitled to trade in seeking to preserve or rescue a business. Coupled with the increase in the use of reservation of title by suppliers and the incidence of fixed mortgages on book debts and plant and machinery, the increase in Crown priority may be beginning to impinge on the chances of businesses being rescued and it is right that the matter should be examined.

There is however one aspect of the State's advantage that is particularly unfair and that is the effect of certain provisions of the Social Security Act 1975 under which company directors can be held personally responsible for payment of National Insurance contributions unpaid on a company's insolvency. The Department of Health and Social Security can pursue claims against directors to the point of making them bankrupt. Directors are placed in an invidious position by these provisions. Any director of a troubled company who does not pay the DHSS is foolishly but any director who seeks to avoid personal liability by paying the DHSS ahead of other creditors is probably making a fraudulent preference within Section 320 of the Companies Act 1948.

Little or no publicity has been given to these provisions and the attitude of the DHSS appears to be that publicity might lead to difficulties in trading directors to whom the provisions apply. I wonder how many company directors are aware of the risk they run and I question whether it is right for this particular unfair advantage to continue pending the deliberations of the Cork Committee.

Yours faithfully,  
A. M. HOMAN,  
Price Waterhouse & Co.,  
Southwark Towers,  
32 London Bridge Street,  
London SE1 9SY.  
February 13.

## Why we should not put all the blame on Murphy

From Mr Roy Bachelor and others

Sir, The most visible manifestations of the science of management are cute one-liners, like the various Parkinson Laws, the Peter Principle, Murphy's Law and so on. Goodhart's Law—that any monetary aggregate loses all economic meaning the instant the Bank of England turns its baleful gaze upon it—certainly has as much entertainment value as its predecessors but rather less sense.

Its progenitor appears to concede Brian Griffiths' point (February 4, February 8) that monetary control is not inherently impossible. It is the way the Bank of England has tried to conduct policy which is self-defeating. However, Goodhart qualifies this admission by the comment that all of economic policy is bedevilled by a law of cussedness, and that Murphy's Law—something can go wrong, it will—explains the failure not only of monetary policies but also of demand management policies and incomes policies over the past two decades. This is a new and dangerous fallacy. It gives absolute to policy makers and encourages them to blame the failure of their policies on the power of many traditional policy tools and the ambitions of economic policy makers must be trimmed accordingly. This may be unwelcome, but is surely a more realistic response than blaming it all on Murphy.

Yours faithfully,  
ROY BACHELOR,  
GEOFFREY E. WOOD,  
Centre for Banking and International Finance,  
The City University,  
Northampton Square,  
London EC1V 0BB,  
February 12.

## The cost of contracting out of state pensions

From Mr Raymond Nottage

Sir, Mr Pilch says (February 7) in regard to the cost to the nation of the contracting out option in the state pensions scheme that "logic is a more appropriate discipline than arithmetic". That the chairman of the National Association of Pension Funds should seek to make such a distinction and to designate arithmetic as a tool of inferior usefulness surely goes a long way to explain why Britain's system of retirement pensions leaves so much to be desired.

It may be, as Mr Pilch claims, that by paying more now as a result of the contracting out option—and this we certainly are—there will be a future saving. What I wish Mr Pilch would tell us, however, is (a) what he expects that saving to occur, (b) how much he expects it to be and (c) what is the real rate of return on investment on which he calculates (a) and (b). It is not postposterous as Mr Pilch would have us believe to expect him—or at any rate his

numerous colleagues in the N.A.P.F.—to know the answers in arithmetic questions to these simple questions which are at the very heart of the matter? Or could it be that he and they know the answers perfectly well, but do not wish to reveal them?

Yours faithfully,  
RAYMOND NOTTAGE,  
Reform Club,  
Pall Mall, SW1,  
February 12.

From Mr W. A. Sibby  
Sir, For those of your readers who are not pension experts, may I explain that Mr Paterson (February 11) is arguing a case which is quite different from that put forward by Mr Nottage (January 30).

Mr Nottage is opposed to the principle of funding in advance for pension liabilities and objects to the contracting out option in the National Insurance Scheme because it allows the use of advance funding in an otherwise pay as you go scheme.

Mr Paterson is not, as I

understand, opposed to the principle of funding in advance, so he does not support Mr Nottage's thesis. He did, however, at the time when employers were required to decide whether or not to contract out, argue at length and for quite different reasons against it.

I am a little provoked by Mr Paterson's attempt to reopen that debate by attributing to his arguments which I have not used. But, since the very complex issues involved were examined at length at that time by all those professionally involved, I am content to rest on the fact that Mr Paterson's arguments were not accepted by the employers of more than 90 per cent of the members of occupational pension schemes.

Yours faithfully,  
W. A. SIBBY,  
Assistant General Manager (Pensions),  
Legal & General Assurance Society Limited,  
Temple Court,  
11 Queen Victoria Street,  
London EC4N 4TP.

## DALGETY Food and Agricultural Products

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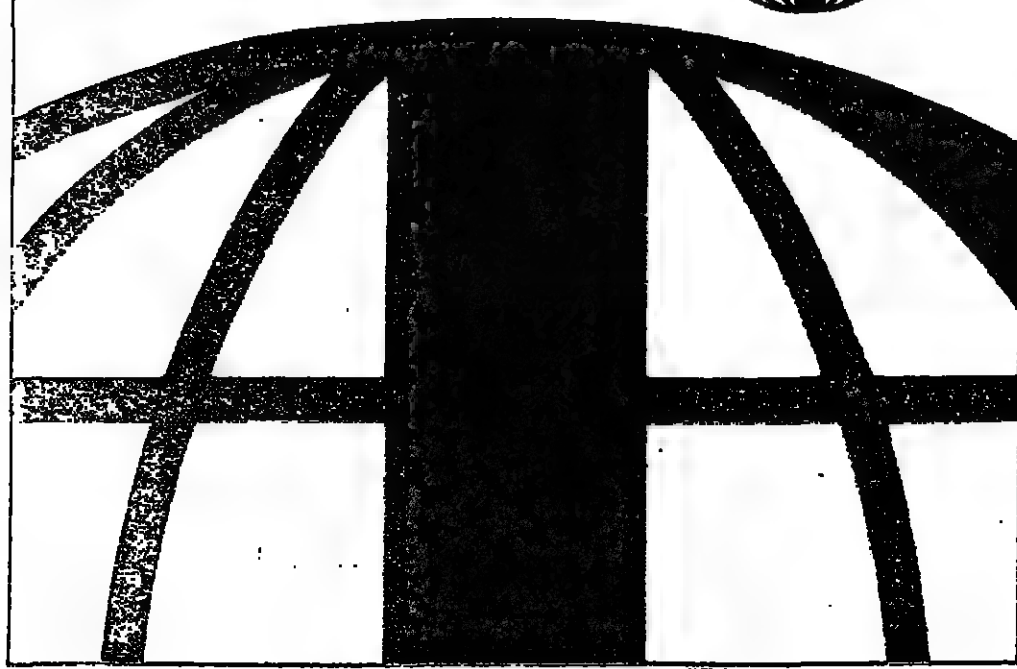
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مكنا من الأصيل

## THE THROGMORTON SECURED GROWTH TRUST LIMITED

INTERIM REVENUE STATEMENT  
The Board of Directors announce the following unaudited interim revenue figures of the Company for the six months ended on 31st January, 1980.

	Six Months Ended 31.1.80	Six Months Ended 31.1.79	Year Ended 31.7.79
GROSS REVENUE	359,593	360,145	686,469
Less: Interest Charges	158,747	138,747	317,628
Administration	19,306	17,045	37,540
Less: Taxation	211,540	184,353	333,301
EARNINGS FOR THE PERIOD	71,000	71,849	102,729
Revenue reserves brought forward	19,756	15,184	15,184
NET REVENUE attributable to ordinary shareholders	£90,756	£87,033	£117,913
DIVIDENDS:			
Interim 0.6125p (1979-0.6125p)	61,250	61,250	61,250
Final — (1979-1.6375p)	—	—	163,750
COST OF DIVIDENDS	£61,250	£61,250	£225,000
Unappropriated revenue carried forward	£29,506	£25,783	£19,736
Earnings per share	1.37p	1.37p	2.30p
NET ASSET VALUE (Debtors at par) ..	125.4	122.7	146.1

At a meeting of the Board of Directors it was resolved that an interim dividend of 0.6125p per share (1979-0.6125p) be paid on 3rd April 1980 in respect of the year to 31st July 1980 to shareholders on the register at 6th March 1980.

The Companies' Bill which incorporates mandatory EEC legislation contains provisions relating to the payment of dividends. As presently drafted, these provisions could for the future inhibit the ability of the company to distribute its revenue. Representations have been made to the Association of Investment Trusts and also the Department of Trade with a view to obtaining amendments to the Companies' Bill. As matters stand, the directors do not expect that the total dividend for the current year will be reduced below that paid in the year ended 31st July 1979.

14th February 1980



# A coup de grâce from Racal

## Can the Post Office sell Prestel overseas?

## Business Diary: Kilmarnock's bitter harvest • Oil birds

BANKING, MONEY BROKING,  
AND INSURANCE BROKING.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Howard Machinery in second-half plunge

By Rosemary Unsworth

Howard Machinery's results made a disappointing reading with the full-year profits almost halved, despite good progress at the interim stage.

Pre-tax profits were down from £2.28m to £1.2m while turnover rose 9 per cent to £85.4m in the year to October 31, 1979. This follows a jump in profits at the halfway stage from £96,000 to £484,000.

The extent of the City's disappointment was marked by a 4p fall in the share price to 18p after the announcement.

The downturn was caused by three different areas of the group's business. The engine division of the group's American subsidiary, which handles Ford industrial engines for use in leisure power boats, was hit by the United States economic and energy problems, while the German company which supplies rotavators failed to move its stocks, which it traditionally built up during the year, for sales in September and October.

But the chairman, Mr Peter Coleclough, said that a management reorganization had put the company back into the black already.



Mr Peter Coleclough, chairman of Howard Machinery.

The United Kingdom rotavator division also suffered from overcapacity during the year.

In addition, the group is close to completing negotiations for the sale of its 50 per cent stake in Howard Harvester, a Suffolk-based company which makes automated livestock feeding system and storage units for

industry. Control will pass to the Illinois-based A. O. Smith Harvester Products although the United Kingdom management will remain unchanged.

The French, Australian and J. Mann operations contributed improved profits during the year and France was also a major source of the overseas tax charge, which fell from £1m to £212,000 during the year. The previous year the German company was responsible for the higher tax charge. Mr Coleclough pointed out. Deferred tax amounted to £194,000 compared to £435,000, and the board said that United Kingdom deferred tax is not now provided where there is no reasonable certainty that such tax will be payable in the foreseeable future.

Despite a warning earlier in the year that the final dividend would be reduced to conserve funds to meet a market recovery, the proposed final has been maintained at 0.84p gross, which, with the interim of 0.82p gross, makes a total of 1.66p—the same as the previous year. Mr Coleclough said that it was not "a tremendous sum" to pay to shareholders.

## Stock markets

## Rally fades as the profit-takers move in

Industrial worries finally put paid to the market's recent optimistic appearance yesterday as buyers took their profits.

Equities again proved the dominant force, although after early interest, in which some selective buying was encountered, business tended to turn quieter by around midday. So once again, the stage was left to the speculative second-liners and takeover situations where there appeared no shortage of customers intent on making a quick profit.

However, even some of these had lost some of their appeal by the close of official business as the profit-takers began to move in.

Oil had a fairly quiet day, following their recent performance as did gold, where the bullion price slipped \$27.50 to \$667.50.

By 3 pm, the FT Index showed only a 1.0 rise, after opening 6.6 up.

Gilt, too, had a much quieter day following the previous day's hectic buying which had pushed up prices by as much as 12 in some cases.

After a fairly firm start, bond prices began to fizzle out with little if any attention given to the money supply figures which were more or less on target.

Nevertheless, rises of between 1/4 and 1/2 in long bonds began to fade, as that by the close most were unchanged on the day. At the shorter end of the market, things were a little worse as news that delegates of the craftsmen's union in the steel dispute had rejected the recent pay offer of 4 per cent. As a result, falls of about 1/4 to 1/2 in long bonds were soon being registered.

The news of the steelmen's decision also had an impact on the equity market after hours as jobs were expected to be safe rather than sorry and market prices lower. In the event, the FT Index tumbled 4.9, to close at 473.9.

Furness Withy was the market's start-up of the day following its bid from C. V. Tung to acquire a 360p share. The price shot up to over 400p as soon as trading commenced in

the morning and it was the most actively traded share all day. In the end, it closed 53p up at 366p, leading the way for a generally firm shipping sector. Fashion & General leapt 40p to 205p, accompanied by Scottish and Mercantile, 18p stronger at 138p and Ocean Wilsons unchanged at 88p, all with stakes in Furness.

Shares of P & O DTD gained some comfort from the interest being expressed in Furness, too, rising 2p to 121p, while European Ferries was 3p firmer at 118p.

The final blow in the battle

Jewellery group Rainers has been a weak market lately falling from a year's high of 10p to 50p. However, some buyers at this lower level raised the shares 3p yesterday to 53p, where they still look an interesting situation.

for Deccas was delivered late on in the afternoon, when Rascal made its third and final offer which most observers believe will be enough to give Rascal the victory it had fought so hard for. But on hearing the latest terms, shares of Rascal plunged 20p to 207p, as Decca fell 15p to 580p in the ordinary,

while the "A" rose 32p to 481p. GEC was 3p easier at 386p. Ferranti remained optimistic about further takeover prospects and edged ahead 3p to 522p, but Plessey dipped 10p to 141p. Another bid hopeful, Berc rose 7p to 123p on hopes of an approach from overseas, as MK Electric rose 3p to 198p in a thin market.

Elsewhere on the bid front, Armitage Shanks advanced 7p to 107p, as Ceramics Investments increased its stake, while Blue Circle rose 4p to 322p on the news that it would not be making a full-scale bid. Comp Air was unchanged at 102p, after its bid approach and suitor Imperial Continental Gas recovered some earlier losses, rising 3p to 750p.

Speculative interest was good enough for rises among some of the second-liners, which included De Vere Hotels 18p to 213p, Martonair, 3p to 210p, Sketchley 14p to 270p and Gill & Duffus 9p to 141p. De La Rue was active in a thin market, rising 20p to 640p, while the recent increase in coal provided Burnet & Hallanshire with a 10p rise to 45p.

Stores came in for a battering after hours on a warning on profits from the chairman of Freeman's which knocked the

price 20p to 132p. This, in turn, hit GUS "A" 5p to 398p, Grattan 4p to 94p and Empire Stores 10p to 168p.

The engineering sector held up relatively well to the latest news in the steel strike with Metal Box unchanged at 264p and Vickers only 1p off at 135p. Investment buying pushed Advest 7p higher at 185p and Tubes 10p to 312p, but Howard Machinery fell 4p to 18p after some full-year figures which were lower than expected.

Imperial Group rose 2 1/2p to 84p after its profits announcement, while William Whittingham jumped 7p to 110p after its 76 per cent profits leap. Leading industrials closed on the bottom in after-hours, although very little selling was reported. Dunlop dipped 3p to 67p on profit-taking, with dealers surprised at how well the price had stood up despite the denial that it was about to sell its plantation interests to Guthrie.

Grand Met lost an earlier 3p rise after its AGM and the price finished all square at 139p. Unilever fell 7p to 463p and ICI dipped 6p to 396p while Glaxo at 256p and Fisons at 302p both shed 2p a piece. Profit-taking knocked rubbers for six with Guthrie leading the

way with a 53p fall to 835p accompanied by Castlefield 13p to 532p, London Sumatra 17p to 441p and Highlands & Lowlands 3p to 114p. Only Kilmacallan, 20p higher at 545p—managed to go against the trend.

Oil also encountered profit-taking after the recent good ride. Among the majors, BP fell 13p to 406p, Shell eased 6p to 382p and Ultramar retreated 2p to 484p. Iasmo encountered more speculative buying among second-liners, rising 7p to 503p and continuing its recent swim against the tide. Premier Cens at 791p, and Charterhall at 761p, were both 3p lighter but International Thomson was 24p heavier at 492p in a thin market.

Mining financials also lost some of their earlier glimmer as the profit-takers moved in, with Const Gold 3p off at 512p and R.T.Z. 15p lighter at 468p despite bid rumours from the US. Selection Trust rose 2p to 790p, along with De Beers an \$1 higher at \$121. But Charter Cons., also stalked by bid rumours, dipped 5p to 189.

House of Fraser, the "Harrods" stores group where Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland has a near-30 per cent stake, has been put on the speculative shopping list again. The price jumped 10p in two days to 144p amid hopes that Mr Rowland could soon make his move. But any decision on whether a full bid will be made is still unlikely to be made until after the Rhodesian elections.

Banks had a mainly mixed appearance ahead of their reporting season with Barclays up 3p to 451p, and Lloyds firmer at 316p. National Westminster was unchanged at 373p, but Midland fell 7p to 373p.

Properties were generally firmer with some good gains in places, but insurers were easier where changed.

Equity turnover on February 13 was £154.04m (19,198 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Furness Withy, Consolidated Gold Fields, R.T.Z., BP, Iasmo Imperial Group, and Premier Cons.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Ass Fruit Tm (F) (d) (1.6/8.4)	0.21(2.3)	—	—	5.0(10.0)	4/4	5.0(10.0)
Ariel Indets (I)	0.42(0.32)	—	—	1.08(0.93)	18/4	—
Buena (I)	1.0(0.7)	—	—	1.0(0.8)	18/4	—
R. Douglas Bldgs (I) 47.4(36.2)	1.1(1.6)	—	6.7(13.1)	1.1(0.9)	8/4	—
American Bond (I)	—	0.21(0.07)	27.8(9.3)	4.87(4.87)	15/4	—
Ge. P. (I)	—	0.4(0.3)	—	4.6(4.4)	10/4	6.8(5.4)
Guidhall Property (I)	—	0.49(0.37)	—	0.75(0.6)	1/4	—
Howard Mach (F) 85.4(78.4)	1.2(2.3)	3.1(2.5)	17.4(18.5)	0.59(0.59)	15/2	1.17(1.12)
Imperial Group (F) 3,822.0(3,432.0)	1.26(7.131.1)	—	—	4.5(4.0)	—	7.25(6.32)
Kina Ktr Ktr (I) (b)	—	0.14(0.12)	—	1.5(1.0)	—	—
Landmark & Lon (F)	—	0.2(0.2)	—	2.3(2.3)	20/3	—
Malaysia Rubber (I)	—	—	—	1.0(0.75)	2/4	—
Ramar Text (I) (a) 7.1(4.7)	—	0.20(0.09)	—	—	3/4	—
River & Mercant (F)	—	2.9(2.3)	13.7(10.3)	8.0(6.0)	31/3	12.95(9.5)
Rylands Int Trst (F)	—	9.8(1.5)	9.8(1.5)	7.9(1.2)	9/4	9.0(7.0)
Thameside Int Trst (F)	—	—	—	0.51(0.61)	3/4	—
Tribune Int Trst (F)	—	1.4(1.1)	3.0(2.7)	1.4(1.15)	9/4	2.33(1.7)
W. Whittingham (F) 20.8(15.5)	2.2(1.2)	28.3(18.2)	—	4.0(2.0)	30/4	6.0(2.0)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=27 weeks; b=9 months; c=special dividend.

## Options

Special situations dominated proceedings in traded options yesterday, where total contracts rose from 1,145 to 1,783.

Some active two-way trade was witnessed in Imperial Group following its preliminary figures with some 508 contracts completed. The February 80p series came in for some active support with 246 contracts. Rascal prompted some interest as well, although trade was halted towards the end to allow time for the latest counter-bid to be fully digested. BP was another active participant in the buoyant oil scene.

Traditional options, on the other hand, had another quiet session, "puts" being arranged in Western Areas, Harmony and North Kalgit.

## Mooloya under investigation

By Philip Robinson

The Stock Exchange has launched an investigation into the share dealings of Mooloya Investments which yesterday changed its chairman and whose shares were suspended at 84p on December 28 last year.

The group has also been told by the trustees of its 12 per cent 1986/88 loan stock to immediately repay the outstanding £600,000 to the 250 stockholders—some with stakes of more than £100,000.

Trustees, the Law Debenture Corporation, say their request follows "serious breaches of several covenants in the trust deeds. Requests to repay loan

stock before redemption are rare.

A spokesman for Law Debenture said last night: "As a professional trustee we very carefully monitor the terms of the trusts and the financial status of the company on behalf of those for whom we act."

The Stock Exchange probe will cover dealings in Mooloya shares from January 1, 1979. It will also cover deals done since the suspension. The Stock Exchange announced that Mr Barry Hersh has left the board after selling his entire 100,000 shares to Mr Christopher Baldwin who now controls 23 per cent of the shares and is acting chairman.

Mr Hersh's resignation will cover Mooloya's offer for

the outstanding shares of stretch cover group Custommag, the attempted takeover of Nunnery Holdings and Mr Hersh's share sale to Mr Baldwin.

Mooloya last accounts were filed on February 3, 1978. Accounts are now due for the period to April 30, 1979. Former Mooloya chairman Mr Michael Campbell, who remains a director said yesterday: "I have not been told of a Stock Exchange inquiry. I have no comment to make on the repayment of the loan stock. The board are considering the situation. Our accounts are now at an advanced stage of completion."

## No cuts at Grand Metropolitan

Grand Metropolitan has decided against capital spending cuts this year, despite its view that the outlook for consumer spending is distinctly gloomy.

Mr Maxwell Joseph, the chairman, says in the annual report that the board recently considered whether capital programmes should be reduced to produce a positive cash flow until the outlook clears.

"The board has decided, however, that it is in both shareholders' and the country's interests to continue to develop plans, provided that they operate within sound financial limits," he said.

Grand Met's current spending plans will probably involve spending in the region of £150m against £125m last year.

national and Rank Industries Australia. These are expected to achieve significant improvements during the next five years.

## RM Douglas slips in first six months

In spite of the turnover of Robert M. Douglas Holdings rising from £36.26m to £47.4m in the half-year to end-Sept, pretax profits slid from £1.65m to £1.15m. Although earnings per share are down from 13.1p to 6.7p, the interim dividend, gross, is being raised from 1.44p to 1.57p. The board expects the total payment to be "in the order" of 5.42p, against 5.16p. Comparisons have been restated.

Britain and the United States. Although Tilling is borrowing to finance its pay for Glasco, the loan will be backed with the £57m rights issue money raised last May.

In the past two years Tilling has spent £108m on United States acquisitions and the American proportion of group assets now stands at 25 per cent.

Since the rights issue, the group has spent £1.5m on Nuvey Manufacturing and £30m on superior Iron Works & Supply of Shreveport, Louisiana. Mr Meaney says that there are other acquisitions planned, both in Britain and America.

## First-half jump at Ramar Textiles

In the 27 weeks to November 2, pretax profits of Ramar Textiles jumped to £200,000, more than double the £90,000 for the first 26 weeks of the previous year. Turnover was up from £4.77m to £7.1m. Pre-tax profits for the full year 1979-79 reached £285,000.

Ramar's board will view the remainder of the year with caution because of the continuing downturn in retail sales and the current climate of industrial unrest. Inflation is also putting pressure on margins.

## Dutch group buys more of Armitage Shanks

Ceramics Investments, the Dutch-based group which is Armitage Shanks's major shareholder, yesterday boosted its stake from 25 per cent to nearly 38 per cent, by buying shares in the market at 105p, 104 1/2p and 107p.

The final total amounted to a holding of more than eight million shares but Ceramics's London advisers, Mr Keith Hemer, repeated its intention of not making a counter-bid for the sanitary ware manufacturer.

Blue Circle Industries has made a £33m agreed offer for the group, which reaches its final closing date next week.

Blue Circle responded to the purchase by saying that it intended to declare the offer unconditional as soon as acceptances went over the 50 per cent level. In a letter to shareholders, BCI's financial advisers, Baring Brothers, said that if Ceramics accepts the offer and it becomes unconditional, the Lebasere-backed group will be welcomed as a significant shareholder in BCI. If it does not accept, and the offer becomes unconditional, Ceramics will remain minority shareholder in Armitage.

The letter also pointed out that the all-share offer now made by Armitage Shanks represents a 105 per cent increase over Armitage's price before the offer was announced. The alternative cash-and-share offer is now worth 96p, an increase of 85 per cent for each Armitage share.

The 2 1/2 per cent rise in cement prices, announced earlier in the week, will help the recovery of increasing costs, but will permit an improvement in the return on the company's home cement operations, said Barings.

Mr Hamer said Ceramics's decision whether to remain as minority shareholders in Armitage would depend on the response made by other shareholders, although the group may continue to buy Armitage shares in the hope of securing an improved offer from BCI.

## COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN LAND EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa  
POTENTIAL NEW GOLD MINE

A preliminary feasibility study of the area west and south of Sallies previous mine workings, and centred on the old No. 5 shaft of Van Dyk Consolidated Mines Limited, has delineated a potential gold mine.

The directors of this company have accordingly voted an amount of R155,000, to be met by the company from existing funds, for the purpose of a detailed feasibility study to determine how such a mine should be financed and operated. This will include the installation of a hoist to facilitate an examination of the Van Dyk No. 5 shaft, in order to ascertain its condition and what equipping would be necessary. Agreement for the use of the shaft for that purpose has been reached with the Anglo-Alpha group, the present holders of the relevant mine rights.

The detailed feasibility study should be ready in the latter part of this year, when a final decision can be made on the opening up of a new mine from the Van Dyk No. 5 shaft and on the initial scale of operations. In the event of it being decided to proceed with such a scheme, the abovementioned agreement would provide for the acquisition of the shaft.

It is possible that such a mine will eventually incorporate some of the Witkop area, where the surface drilling programme has yielded inconclusive results. This programme is to be supported as soon as the present drilling of the last deflection in borehole SRK-1 has been completed.

Copies of this announcement are being sent to all registered shareholders. By order of the board  
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED  
Secretaries  
per: R. V. C. Asherwood  
Companies Secretary

Johannesburg,  
15th February, 1980.

## Do you import capital goods from Spain?

Banco Español en Londres, in conjunction with the Banco Exterior de España, Madrid, is offering loan facilities for up to 5 years at low preferential rates of interest (9% p.a.). This line of credit should prove of particular interest to British importers of Spanish capital goods.

For further information please contact the Marketing Manager at the Head Office of the Banco Español en Londres at 60 London Wall, London EC2, tel. 628 8714.

BANCO ESPAÑOL EN LONDRES

## Moulinex 1979 SALES

- A) NON CONSOLIDATED The non consolidated turnover after tax for 1979 amounted to 1 771 925 054 FF which represents an improvement of 10.04% in comparison with the previous year.
- B) The consolidated turnover (approximately, before some minor adjustments) reached 2 116 187 265 FF against 1 860 130 156 in 1978, an increase of 7.93%.

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT  
Record sales, profit and dividend

Results for year to 30th September	1979	1978
Turnover	£000's 26,501	£000's 19,991
Profit before tax	3,324	2,415
Profit after tax	2,300	1,667
Earnings per share	38.8p	28.1p
Dividends per share (gross)	10.4p	7.1p

- All Divisions produced improved results. Crutch output was at record levels.
- The Group is in a strong liquid position, and the Directors are actively seeking ways to better utilise some of these resources in investments which have commercial logic.

The current year began with very good order books. There has been no slackening of demand for our coach bodies in the U.K., and we have an adequate supply of chassis. If the country is spared a repetition of the industrial problems and the unusually bad weather conditions of last winter, there is confidence that we will have a successful year.

Copies of the full report & accounts are available from the Secretary, Plaxtons, Southborough Limited, 40 St. Wilfrid's Square, RUSborough W12 4DD

PLAXTONS  
The Great British Coach Builders

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HIGH & DRY!

Really Dry Gin



## Stock Exchange Prices Equities retreat

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 11. Dealings End, Feb 22. Contango Day, Feb 25. Settlement Day, March 3  
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

John Foord  
plant and machinery valuers

1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chgs Pence % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chgs Pence % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chgs Pence % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chgs Pence % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chgs Pence % P/E
<b>BRITISH FUNDS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>LOCAL AUTHORITIES</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>FOREIGN STOCKS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>DOLLAR STOCKS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>BANKS AND DISCOUNTS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>BREWERS AND DISTILLERS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>SHIPPING</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>MINES</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>FINANCIAL TRUSTS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>INSURANCE</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>PROPERTY</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>RUBBER</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>TEA</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>									
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

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## Acas complied with statutory duties in report

[illegible]

**Regina v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Khuchbadani**

Before Lord Justice Shaw and Mr Justice Kilner Brown  
[Judgments delivered February 7]

The present case of English law took place in this country and, as a result, property was obtained outside the jurisdiction, there was under the Larceny Act, 1916, or section 15 of the Theft Act, 1968. Consequently, such a deception in obtaining property outside the country was not a relevant offence for the purposes of the Fugitive Offenders Act.

The Divisional Court so held in granting an application for a writ of habeas corpus, directed to the Home Secretary, by Vashi Chataran Khuchbadani, who, until released on bail, had been detained there under a warrant of commitment issued by the Metropolitan Magistrate, sitting at Bow Street, on October 22, 1979, with a view to his extradition to England under section 7(5) of the Fugitive Offenders Act.

By section 7(5): "Where an arrest warrant has been issued in respect of the person arrested and the court of commitment is satisfied—(a) that the person is guilty of an offence which is a relevant offence and is further satisfied—(a) where that person is accused of the offence, that he is guilty of it; and (b) where that person is charged with the offence, that he is guilty of it; and (c) that it is expedient to commit him to custody to await his return."

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, and Mr James Morgan, appeared for the applicant.  
Mr Clive Nicholls for the government of Ghana; Mr Michael

which the applicant had drawn a cheque on his company's account in Ghana.

The applicant contended that the provision of the Fugitive Offenders Act did not entitle the magistrate to order commitment with a view to extradition.

A person found in the United Kingdom who is accused of a relevant offence in any other country being—(a) a Commonwealth country, or (b) a country to which the provisions of this section may be applied, may be arrested and returned to that country.

(c) provided that an offence was a "relevant offence" if—  
... the act or omission constituting the offence, or the equivalent act or omission, would constitute an offence against the law of the United Kingdom if it took place within the United Kingdom or would constitute a criminal or tortious offence, in corresponding circumstances outside the United Kingdom."

"Relevant offences" set out in Schedule 1 to the Act included: "  
... stealing, embezzlement, fraudulent conversion, fraudulent false accounting, fraud, forgery, receiving credit by false pretences, receiving stolen property or any other offence in respect of property involved in exchange of goods, reference to breaches of exchange control regulations.

It was argued that the appellant could not avail himself of the fact that there was under New English law no evidence of the commission of a relevant offence. That argument failed because the Government of Britain Prison, Ex parte Gardner (1968) 2 QB 399, where it was held that the offence of conspiracy committed by an accused in New Zealand was not an offence under English law and therefore there was no relevant offence. The House of Lords decided that indicated that the foreign currency was not obtained within the juris-

had no part to play other than to exercise their function of judicial review in the event of a challenge to the validity of an act or omission on the part of the bodies entrusted by statute with the duty of promoting the improvement of international relations. It made no provision for appeal to the courts in the event of a party's dissatisfaction with an Acas report, its findings were for Acas and the CAC. It was their discretion, their judgment which determined such issues.

In the absence of the courts had no role to play, judicial review of the lawfulness of the actions of the two bodies was available. It was not available against Acas, its functions being performed "on behalf of the Crown", notwithstanding that the body was mentioned in paragraph 11(1) of Schedule 1 to the Act.

In the case of a statutory body, the scope of judicial review depended on the statute, but it could never be wholly eliminated. The courts would determine any change in the balance between the authority conferred on the body. But the courts would not substitute their judgment for that of the body, nor would they do so where the statute had provided for its discretion. The extent to which the courts were able to interfere was largely dependent on the nature of the dispute. In the Wednesbury Corporation case [1948] 1QB 223).

The courts would not make a statutory body liable to conduct its business or what decision, report or recommendation to make. They would invalidate the decision of a body if their judgment or discretion only justified that no reasonable person engaged with the body's responsibilities would have exercised its power in the

courts could not interfere: their interference would be a substitution of one kind of merit.

The conclusion that the condition of UKAPE would constitute a risk to good industrial relations did follow logically and was based on the facts of the report. That conclusion being the reason that Acas refused to recommend recognition, it was not surprising that the findings which led the two Lord Justices to declare the report nullity. And it might well have been said that the findings required to support its conclusions. Provided a report showed that the basis of the finding of the issue referred, and that its conclusion was reasonable in the context of the findings set out in the report, it was for Acas to decide what findings to make. The report satisfied that test, and that ground of challenge failed.

His Lordship agreed with the Master of the Rolls that Article 1 of the European Convention and the rights of association protected the right of association which in the present context included the right to join a trade union or to form one. Every trade union which could show that it had members employed by a particular company was entitled to participate for the purposes of collective bargaining. If the common law was to be understood, Parliament had averred that the right to join a trade union was a possible interpretation of the European Convention. His Lordship would not adopt it unless it was shown that the Human Rights declared that it was correct. The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Wilberforce, Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies and Lord Keith of Kinkor agreed with the majority.  
The Solicitor-General, Geoffrey, Rowcliffe and

The Lord Chief Justice issued a *Practice Direction* giving a reminder of power under section 29 of the Criminal Appeal Act, 1968, in order that time spent in custody may be made a sentence. The reminder was given because of the huge number of hopeless appeals which are causing increasing delays to meritorious appeals.

Section 29(1) provides: "The time during which an appellant is in custody pending the determination of his appeal shall, subject to any direction which the Court of Appeal may give to the contrary, be reckoned as part of the term of the sentence to which he is . . . subject". By section 31 a single judge also has power to give such a "direction to the contrary".

THE LORDSHIP said that in 1970 Lord Parker, then Lord Chief Justice, issued a reminder of the power, both of the full court and of the single judge, when refusing an application for leave to appeal, that the time spent in custody during which a person was in custody after lodging his application, should not count towards sentence: *Practice Direction: Applications for Leave to Appeal* (1970) 54 Cr App R 280).

The power was then exercised only rarely at the single judge stage and the reminder had been necessary due to the serious delays caused to meritorious appeals by the huge number of hopeless appeals which had also to be considered. It had led immediately to an improvement in the situation.

A similar reminder was necessary at present. Again meritorious appeals were suffering serious and increasing delays because of the backlog of huge numbers of hopeless appeals. Again the power at the single judge stage was being rarely used.

In order to accelerate the hearing of those appeals in which there was some merit, from April

15, 1980, single judges would give special consideration to the giving of a direction for loss of time, whenever an application for leave to appeal was refused. It might be expected that such a direction would normally be made unless the grounds were not only settled and signified by counsel, but also supported by the written opinion of counsel. Advice on appeal was, of course, often available to prisoners under the legal aid scheme.

Counsel should not, section 31 grounds, or support them with written advice, unless he considered that the proposed appeal was properly arguable. It would therefore, clearly not be appropriate to penalize the prisoner in such a case, even if the single judge considered that the appeal was quite hopeless.

It was also necessary to stress that, if an application was refused by the single judge, it being wholly devoid of merit, the full court had power in the event of renewal [of the application to the Court of Appeal] both to order loss of time, if the single judge had not done so, and to increase the amount of time ordered to be lost if the single judge had already made a direction, whether or not grounds had been settled and signified by counsel. It might be expected that that power, too, would normally be exercised from April 15.

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# £10,000 plus Appointments

## ARCHITECT

The post of Architect to the C.E.G.B. having unexpectedly fallen vacant, a first class successor is sought. The job calls for personal involvement in a wide range of the Board's activities, from the strategy of site selection to the design of individual buildings and landscape. Age limits between 35 and 50 are mandatory.

The post is as much concerned with the fundamentals of architecture (i.e. aesthetics, colour, form, scale, use of space, etc.) as with the technology of building. In consequence it requires the holder not only to have aesthetic sense, but also sufficient strength of character to be able to put forward his/her views convincingly and defend them successfully. The successful candidate must also have sound professional and commercial judgement in commissioning and assessing proposals prepared for the Board by eminent external firms. He or she must be able to meet and co-operate with the most distinguished members of the architectural profession and be capable of establishing good relationships based on mutual respect and trust with colleagues in the other disciplines concerned with power station siting, design and construction.

In addition to these personal responsibilities, the Architect (C.E.G.B.) is required to lead a group of architects and landscape architects who undertake a range of executive schemes for the Generation Development and Construction Division.

It will be an advantage if the candidate's previous experience has been closely connected with heavy industrial power station architecture, to which he or she should preferably have made a significant contribution. Professional landscape qualifications and experience are also desirable. Those without these attributes should not, however, be deterred from applying, particularly if they are keen on the job.

The post is based at the Headquarters of the Generation Development and Construction Division, Barnwood, Gloucester.

Salary for the appointment will be within the range £13,800 to £15,800 per annum. If you believe you meet these exacting standards, please apply to the Manager of Personnel and Administration, Central Electricity Generating Board, Generation Development and Construction Division, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 7HS (Gloucester 0452 62853) enclosing your curriculum vitae. Within two weeks of this advertisement. Envelopes and correspondence should be marked 'Confidential' and quote Vacancy Reference Number: 10/80/DT. Shortlisted candidates will be expected to submit a portfolio to illustrate their work and breadth of experience.



CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD  
GENERATION DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

## Solomon Islands

### Senior Lands Officer (Policy and Research)

Up to £9,690 p.a. (plus allowances)

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Duties will include research into land settlement, the land aspects of planning studies, assisting in the formulation of land administration policy and the co-ordination of staff training.

Salary includes a substantial tax-free allowance paid under British overseas aid programme. Basic salary attracts 25% gratuity.

Benefits include free passages, generous paid leave, children's holiday visit passages and education allowances, outfit allowance, appointment grant and interest-free loan.

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For full details and application form write quoting MID/1306/TC.

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We invite applications from candidates, male or female, aged 35-50, with not less than seven years' senior level experience in the innovative and proven general administration of a large professional practice or comparable organisation noted for its methods and standards. A minimum of two years heading a department of this nature is essential together with an ability to make a positive contribution to the overall progress of the firm. Responsibility is to the Partnership for the effective maintenance and development of a complete range of services in support of the professional group. The successful candidate will manage, within substantial budgets, a large staff concerned mainly with property, secretarial and other office services using sophisticated equipment and the provision of catering and domestic requirements. Initial salary negotiable £12,000-£16,000, including optional car scheme, contributory pension, free life assurance, group B.U.P.A., and assistance with relocation expenses, where necessary. Applications in strict confidence, under reference PS 3968/TT, to the Managing Director:

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The person they are seeking should have first class shorthand, typing, book-keeping and general office administrative skills. He should be a fluent Arabic speaker, but not essential. Applicants should have a good general standard of education and apply in writing to:

Box 0608 F, The Times

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#### Brilliantly efficient, non-

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#### C.V. and salary history,

#### numbered 10/80/DT,

#### to: 01-439 5211/1110.

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A short service commission provides a useful breather between college and career. An opportunity to increase your working experience, without reducing your options.

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You must organize all their training, arrange courses on some subjects, teach others yourself. Radio procedure. Terrorist booby traps. Battlefield tactics. Men's lives may depend on how well you get the message across.

There will be plenty to test your mechanical flair too.

Today, the majority of units have armoured vehicles. And although lads from the REME carry out any major repairs, routine maintenance and emergency work will be down to you.

Fancy yourself as a bit of a Rumpole? If a soldier lands in court on a motoring charge or for a divorce hearing, you may be called to speak up for him. If he's brought before a court martial, it may be you, not a barrister, who conducts his defence.

Not that all an Officer's duties are guaranteed to raise your temperature. You are responsible for your men's welfare as well as their work.

And that can mean assisting your men with their finances in your off-duty hours. Explaining German F.L.P. agreements to your soldiers' wives. Or giving a young private some bad news from home.

Three years of all this will develop your character in a way so rough and tumble that you'll never want to leave.

And at the end of it you will know the kind of work that suits you best.

Many short service commissioned Officers make the Army their career, but there is no shortage of offers from the outside.

Recently 50 leading British companies publicly stated how much they valued the leadership training and management experience a young man gains as an Army Officer.

If you do decide to leave you won't go empty handed. In addition to a starting salary of £5,391 SSC Officers receive a tax-free gratuity of £2,265 after three years' service.

If you have graduated, or are about to, and are still undecided about a career, send for our booklet 'Army Officer. What the job is like and how to apply for it'.

The man to write to is Major John Moyd, Dept. 18 Army Officer Entry, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA.

Tell him your age, your qualifications, give him a few details about yourself and raise any questions you have about life as an Army Officer.

**Army Officer**

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### The University of Lancaster

#### Applications are invited for the post of:

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To work with Dr. P. V. E. Clutton-Brock in the Department of Archaeology. The post involves a full-time commitment to research in the field of prehistoric archaeology. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the department's research programme and to assist in the supervision of students.

The post is for three years, with the possibility of extension. The salary is £5,000 p.a. plus allowances. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the department's research programme and to assist in the supervision of students.

Further particulars may be obtained by writing to the Director of Graduate Studies, The University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YW. Applications should be sent to the Director of Graduate Studies, The University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YW.

The University of Bristol invites applications for a LECTURESHIP in THE DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES.

The person appointed will be expected to teach in the following areas:

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#### SENIOR SECRETARIES



# Emergency aid centre on the Continent

The office is the Automobile Association's continental emergency centre, the clearing house for claims on the 5-Star touring policy, or other forms of AA insurance, or simply a shoulder for Britons in trouble to cry on. No reasonable request is turned away.

Although he calls on official channels of help, from the British Embassy in Paris downwards, Mr Gregson also relies on personal contacts he has built up over the years. It is a kind of French equivalent of the old boy net. It seems to work and goodness knows what the AA will do when Mr Gregson can no longer run it.

## Road test: Subaru 1600 4WD

**On its own—the Subaru four-wheel drive saloon.**

Each car is fitted with radial tyres designed to cope with mud and snow, bumper overriders and a guard for the front air dam and rear mud flaps. Ground clearance is nearly an inch and a half higher than on the two-wheel-drive saloon. The four-wheel-drive version, of course, has a higher gear ratio of these, the car has lower gearing to increase pulling power on difficult surfaces.

Four-wheel drive is engaged simply by working a small lever by the driver's feet and then can be done while the car is moving up to 50 mph in a straight line. Helped by synchromesh, the change is imperceptible. Although unlike most

[illegible]

The advanced specification brings further disappointments in the areas of ride and handling. The ride quality steering systems are generally very precise but this one has the typically Japanese dead feel which can be a little disconcerting when trying to keep the car steady in the lane. The suspension, in the circumstances, is hardly crisp, with a certain amount of body roll and a tendency to be jugged off line by uneven surfaces. There is, however, no great loss of control. The chassis, in fact, is a little more than average and it needs only the slightest bump to set up road noise.

The main criticism inside the car is a very low driving seat which, together with insufficient back adjustment, gave me, as with all the other cars, a very poor view. No doubt the seats give enough side support. As on some other Japanese cars, the front door opening is not large enough to get in and out easily.

## Muddle over endorsement

The matter is being taken up by the Automobile Association, which supported the appeal of a member that resulted in the Divisional Court decision. One way of expunging erroneous endorsements would be a Home Office directive to magistrates to ignore them when "torting up" for disqualification, although it is open to individual motorists to make their representations.

### Peter Waymark

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An information booklet may be obtained from the Consultants at the above address.

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<p><b>CHARITY COMMISSION</b></p>	<p><b>CHESTNUT BERTS.</b></p>
<p>Charities—City Parochial Foundation—Church Fund; Scheme for the application of the provisions of the Fund Ref. 306/25-1-12.</p> <p>The Charity Commissioners have for an order establishing a scheme for the other purposes. Copies may be obtained by written request to the Charity Commission, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 7</p>	

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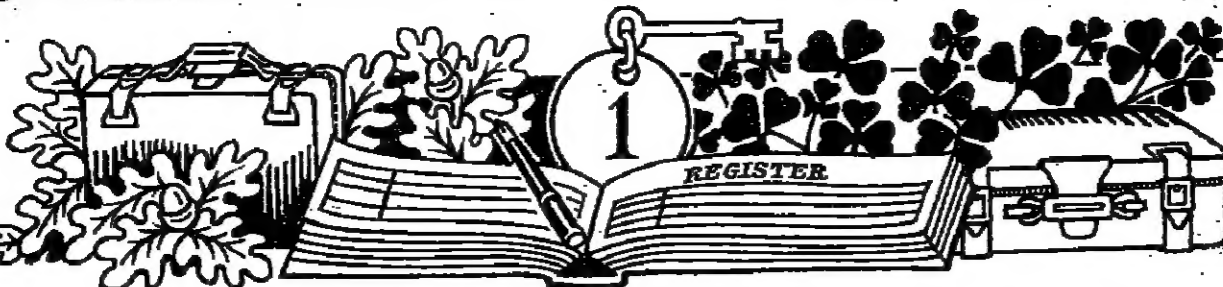
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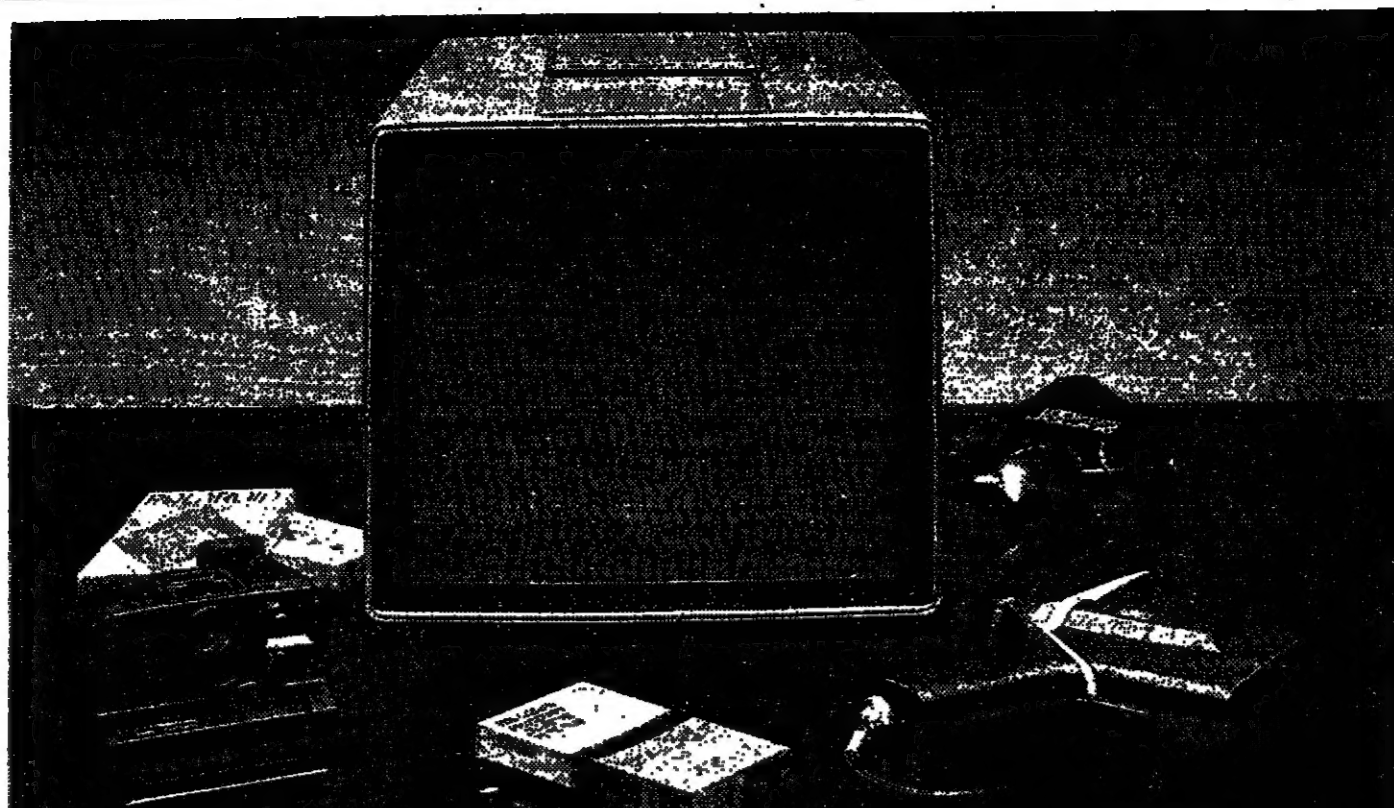
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## Win this Polaroid Camera and you're an instant film star.

First prize of this year's Summer Holiday Competition will be a complete Polaroid movie outfit. The latest development from Polaroid.

Which, as its name suggests, gives instant moving pictures.

Simply shoot your movie with the hand-held camera, load the exposed film cassette into the player, wait just ninety seconds and then sit down and enjoy the show. No screens to set up. No projector to thread.

Just imagine, you could show a wedding at the reception, relive Christmas Day on Boxing Day or even watch your holiday films while you're still on holiday.

The possibilities are endless.

And things are looking good for the runners up. Every week, for three months, we'll be giving away a Polaroid Auto Focus 5000 which produces instant colour photographs and guarantees perfect sharpness.

And for three other lucky losers there'll be a pair of 'Lookers by Polaroid' Sunglasses.

### HOW TO ENTER

First, read through the holiday columns and find the answers to these three simple questions.

- 1 Where would you get a welcome from the heart?
- 2 Knit a sweater in peace and quiet?
- 3 Opportunity for harassed parents to let loose?

\*Prizes supplied by Unilever.

Now imagine that you are an exhausted Robinson Crusoe shortly after arrival on Desert Island.

Is the place all you had hoped for?

Admittedly it's scorching hot, secluded and the native is friendly. But don't the amenities leave something to be desired? Hotel not even partially constructed, night life a shade dull and the possibility of romance exceedingly remote.

All in all it doesn't add up to much of a holiday. So write a letter of complaint (max. 100 words) to the travel agency that has organised your stay there.

But beware. They're also responsible for your return and too harsh a criticism could leave you stranded. Best to make light of the matter. Humour them.

Then send us your letter. We must receive it by next Wednesday. So don't put it in a bottle, post it directly to The Times Summer Holiday Competition, New Printing House Square, Grays Inn Road, London W.C.1.

At the end of the competition all the winning entries will be judged again and the author of the most entertaining letter will receive the Polaroid Movie outfit.

### CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 1 Employees of The Times Newspapers Limited and their families may not apply.
- 2 The decision of the judges is final.

## THE TIMES U.K. Holidays Competition.

### Scotland

#### ISLE OF SKYE

##### KINLOCH LODGE HOTEL

A former shooting lodge, now a superb holiday home with superb views down the Kinloch Loch and across to the Mull of Galloway. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens.

#### PERTHSHIRE

Glenelg, Perthshire. A superb holiday home with superb views down the Kinloch Loch and across to the Mull of Galloway. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens.

#### LOCH NESS AREA

Hollycraig, Loch Ness. A superb holiday home with superb views down the Kinloch Loch and across to the Mull of Galloway. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. The hotel is a superb example of traditional Scottish architecture and is surrounded by beautiful gardens.

#### DRUMMONDLOCH

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### Heart of England

#### COTSWOLDS

##### Choice of comfortable holiday cottages

Choice of comfortable holiday cottages in the heart of the Cotswolds. The cottages are a superb example of traditional English architecture and are surrounded by beautiful gardens. The cottages are a superb example of traditional English architecture and are surrounded by beautiful gardens.

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## PERSONAL CHOICE

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Going to the Sun. 7.00 News. 7.30 Models in Chemistry. Close down at 7.55.

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Traffic. 9.30 News. 9.55 The Great Escape. 10.15 Read: 10.15 Maths-in-a-Minute. 10.25 Going to Work. 11.00 Hyh-a-Fyd. 11.25 You and Me: For the very young. One for You, and One for Me (r).

11.40 Schools, Colleges: Maths (Play Now, Play Later). 12.05 pm Your Own Business (Improving the environment). Close down at 12.30.

12.45 News and weather. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Song-writer Peter Skellern, with the Grimthorpe Colliery Band. Also holiday holiday with Ian Lyon and gardening Peter Scarborough at work on the Pebble Mill plot.

1.45 Minter Meir: The story of Mr. Minter Meir. 2.00 Schools, Colleges: Scene (The Travellers). 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects (the planners). Close down at 3.00.

3.25 Pobel y Cwm: For Welsh viewers. 3.55 Play School: Ezra Jack Keats' story The Snowy Day. 4.20 Kookaburra and the Secret Squirrel: Cartoon. 4.30 Jackanory: Cyd Hayman con-

## BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Talking to the Children. 7.05 Computers. 7.30 Paris: La Belle Époque. Close down at 7.55.

11.00 Play School: same as BBC 1. 1.35 Close down at 11.35.

4.50 Open University: Physical Chemistry and Cosmology. 5.15 Fossil Vertebrate Distribution.

5.40 Harold Lloyd: Genuinely excerpts from another two of the comedians' silent film. The Freshman and The Weak. The superimposed commentary is both funny and un-necessary.

6.05 Cartoon Two: Cartoon from Czechoslovakia-Parade. 6.10 Monkey: Chinese fantasy, dubbed into English from the original Japanese. 6.55 Delta Smith's Cookery Course: How to make a first-class spaghetti

## THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: British Man (David Bellamy in New Zealand). 9.57 School Leavers (bricks). 10.10 Work (unemployment). 10.27 It's Your Future. 10.48 About Books. 11.10 Reading with Lenny. 11.22 Leapfrog (march). 11.39 Believe it or Not (Sketchs).

11.55 Cartoon: The Medicine Man. 12.00 A Handful of Songs: Young viewers' paintings, and some songs from Maria Morgan and Keith Field.

12.05 pm On One Upon a Time: The story of the bear and the mushrooms (r).

12.30 The Television Programme: New series, presented by Peter Fiddick of the Guardian. Interview with Esther Rantzen, and clips from famous television programmes. (Personal Choice).

1.20 News. 1.30 Thames News. 1.30 Together: Serial about life in a block of flats. 2.00 After Noon Plus: Can the Irish be defined?

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: \*STEREO; \*BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

dish. Also, an indelible method of producing crepes Suzette. 12.30 News: with sub-titles for the hearing impaired. 1.00 News. 1.30 In the Country: What Price Beauty? Angela Rippon, Phil Drabble and Richard Maibay pay a visit to the King's Palace at Glendevon Hotel in Scotland. 10.15 Jazz: Start of a new series. George Wein, the man who created the New York Jazz Festival, is interviewed by Mike Hennessey. We also hear Phyllis Newman, the Herb Ellis Trio and Concordia.

10.45 The British in Love: Television version of Jilly Cooper's anthology (same title) of love poems and songs (see Personal Choice).

11.30 News and weather. 11.45 Friday Night... Saturday Morning: Ned Sherrin's guests are Professor Sir Alfred Ayres, the ballet dancer Wayne Sleep, and Aubrey Wainwright. Also, quiz of the week and music from the Sisters. Ends at approximately 12.40 am.

The programme has a go, using a play about the boxer/playboy Jack Doyle as its point of departure. 2.45 Film: The Clairvoyant (bricks). Old British thriller about a music hall mind-reader (Claude Rains) who really does acquire the gift, with frightening results. Fay Wray, John Carradine, and the world (r).

4.45 Muppet: Includes a visit to a tea auction, an item on sick insects as pets, and Newswatch. 5.15 Easdale Farm: Glad tidings for Anne Sledge. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.30 Thames Sport: with Allan Taylor and John McCreckin.

London Weekend

7.00 Muppet Show: The human guest is Christopher Reeve, the current's Stephen Fry. 7.30 Play Your Cards Right: Bruce Forsyth's fast-moving battle of wits with contestants whose for-

tunes depend on the turn of a playing card.

10.30 The Jack Benny Show: The American comedian in one of his old, but still fresh, comedy half-hours. 10.50 Ballroom Champions: Finals of the 1979-80 Ballroom Championships. Also, the finals of the Amateur Modern Championships. 11.25 Film: Tea and Sympathy (1956). Delicately handled film of Robert Anderson's stage play about a house master's wife (Deborah Kerr) who falls in love with her husband's pupil (John Kerr). Incredibly, the play was once thought to be not very nice. Ends at 1.30 am.

Regions

BBC 1: 6.40 am News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.05 News. 8.10 News. 8.15 News. 8.20 News. 8.25 News. 8.30 News. 8.35 News. 8.40 News. 8.45 News. 8.50 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.05 News. 9.10 News. 9.15 News. 9.20 News. 9.25 News. 9.30 News. 9.35 News. 9.40 News. 9.45 News. 9.50 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 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